

CITY OF SHORELINE

SHORELINE PLANNING COMMISSION SUMMARY MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

February 19, 2009
7:00 P.M.

Shoreline Conference Center
Mt. Rainier Room

Commissioners Present

Chair Kuboi
Vice Chair Hall
Commissioner Behrens
Commissioner Broili
Commissioner Kaje
Commissioner Perkowski
Commissioner Piro
Commissioner Wagner

Staff Present

Joe Tovar, Director, Planning & Development Services
Steve Cohn, Senior Planner, Planning & Development Services
David Levitan, Associate Planner, Planning & Development Services
Jessica Simulcik Smith, Planning Commission Clerk

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Pyle

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kuboi called the regular meeting of the Shoreline Planning Commission to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call by the Commission Clerk, the following Commissioners were present: Chair Kuboi, Vice Chair Hall, and Commissioners Behrens, Broili, Kaje, Perkowski, Piro and Wagner. Commissioner Pyle was excused.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Tovar reported that as per the Commission's recommendation, the City Council approved a regulation to reroute quasi-judicial items that would normally come before the Commission to the Hearing Examiner. This regulation would be applicable on a one-year trial basis. He noted that master

plans would be exceptions, and he anticipates a number of them coming before the Commission in the near future.

Mr. Tovar further reported that staff made a presentation to the City Council on February 9th regarding potential amendments to the City's regulations dealing with trees and vegetation. After a lengthy discussion, the City Council agreed to forward a citizen group's proposal, along with the staff report that listed nine topical areas that the tree regulation amendments could include, to the Planning Commission for review. Staff anticipates providing further information regarding this item at the Commission's special meeting on February 26th. The Commission would have an opportunity to discuss the appropriate process for moving the item forward. They could then report back to the City Council for further direction. Mr. Cohn noted that a portion of the information was provided in the Commission's February 26 agenda packet as "Attachment 1."

Mr. Tovar announced that he met with the Richmond Beach Neighborhood Association on February 10th to discuss the status of Snohomish County's proposed Point Wells Comprehensive Plan Amendment. Approximately 60 people were in attendance, including several City-elected officials. He advised that he met with executive staff at the Snohomish County Courthouse on February 18th, and they indicated a public hearing on the amendment is scheduled for February 24th. Steve Cohn would attend the public hearing to present the City's initial comments regarding the merits of the proposal. People have until March 23rd to comment on the draft Environmental Impact Statement, as well. Mr. Tovar summarized that based on Snohomish County's accelerated process for approving their amendments by June, staff would propose the City Council also accelerate the Planning Commission's work on proposed amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 5, 2009 were accepted as amended.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No one in the audience indicated a desire to address the Commission during this portion of the meeting.

CONTINUATION OF SMALL GROUP WORKSHOPS ON DRAFTING VISION STATEMENT AND FRAMEWORK GOALS

Mr. Cohn suggested the Commission break into two groups: one group would focus on the Vision Statement, and the other group would focus on the Framework Goals. He announced that staff anticipates forwarding the Framework Goals and the Vision Statement Narrative to the City Council for discussion at their February 23rd Meeting. He reminded the Commission that the documents would be presented to the public at a Town Hall Meeting on March 2nd at Meridian Park Elementary School.

The Commission discussed whether it would be appropriate to maintain the same groups that were established at the February 5th meeting or modify the groups so that Commissioners have an opportunity to provide input on both of the items. Vice Chair Hall stressed the importance of the entire Commission

having an opportunity to review both documents so that the final products can become the work of the Commission, as a whole, rather than the work of a subcommittee.

THE COMMISSION RECESSED THE REGULAR MEETING AT 7:25 P.M. TO CONDUCT THE SMALL GROUP WORKSHOPS ON DRAFTING A VISION STATEMENT AND FRAMEWORK GOALS. THE REGULAR MEETING WAS RECONVENED AT 10:22 P.M.

FINAL RECOMMENDATION ON DRAFT VISION STATEMENT AND FRAMEWORK GOALS

COMMISSIONER BEHRENS MOVED THE COMMISSION RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S DRAFT VISION STATEMENT AND SET OF FRAMEWORK GOALS. COMMISSIONER PIRO SECONDED THE MOTION.

Vice Chair Hall said he was very impressed with the work of the subcommittees. He commended Commissioner Perkowski for compiling all of the Commission's discussions into a draft Vision Statement and Commissioner Wagner for helping her group get through the Framework Goals very quickly. He commended all of the Commissioners for providing suggestions and materials to aid the discussions. He emphasized that the Commission was able to accomplish their task of creating the draft documents in just two meetings. Commissioner Piro also commended staff for providing excellent and detailed support throughout the process. Chair Kuboi added that Vice Chair Hall did a wonderful job of presenting ideas and facilitating the work groups. Mr. Tovar commended the Planning Commission for doing a fabulous job of working through the two documents and preparing them in a final form that could be forwarded to the City Council.

Commissioner Kaje recalled that throughout the process, the Commission has gravitated to the idea of providing some images or artwork to complement the narrative. He noted that this could become a tool to further illustrate the intent of the verbiage. He suggested this concept be shared with the City Council, as well. Mr. Tovar suggested the Commission think about illustrations that would amplify the words in the document. He recalled the Commission previously discussed the idea of providing diagrammatic representations of some of the concepts. He said he anticipates at least some of the City Council members will have a desire to translate some of the language onto maps representing the City to illustrate some of the concepts such as neighborhood centers, major transportation corridors, etc. He noted that once the draft language has been reviewed by the City Council, the Commission would have an opportunity to further refine the documents before they are presented for public hearings in April.

Commissioner Broili recalled a "green street" project in the southern part of the country that was difficult to push through. The person in charge was able to get people on board by going through a process of graphically showing the choices. This exercise helped people understand what the possibilities were. He agreed with Commissioner Kaje that graphics are important to help people understand concepts that are foreign to them.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present in the audience.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Kuboi pointed out that the Commission typically elects new officers at their first meeting in April. He suggested Commissioners start thinking about who they want to appoint.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONERS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None of the Commissioners provided reports during this portion of the meeting.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Special Meeting on February 26, 2009

Mr. Cohn announced that in addition to a discussion about potential amendments to the tree regulations, the Commission would also conduct a public hearing on the Development Code Amendments that were initially presented to the Commission in early December.

Ms. Simulcik Smith reported that she forwarded the Commission's questions regarding the Transit Resolution to Alicia McIntire, who indicated she would prepare a written response for the Commission by March 5th.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 P.M.

Sid Kuboi
Chair, Planning Commission

Jessica Simulcik Smith
Clerk, Planning Commission