



MINUTES  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
1300 NE Village Street  
Fairview, OR 97024  
Wednesday, September 15, 2010

PRESENT: Keith Kudrna, Vice Chair  
Jack McGiffin  
Jan Shearer  
Steve Kaufman

ABSENT: Ed Jones, Chair  
Gary Stonewall  
Julius Arceo

STAFF: John Gessner, Community Development Director  
Lindsey Nesbitt, Senior Planner  
Devree Leymaster, Admin. Program Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Barbara Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**2. JOINT WORK SESSION WITH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Natural Resource Code improvements**

Senior Planner Nesbitt briefed Council on the natural resource code and mapping amendment project the Planning Commission had been working on for the past year. The project originally began as a result of Metro's Title 13 (Natural Resource) requirements. The goal of Title 13 was to create standards that would balance development needs and protect resources. Staff and Commission conducted an audit of the code. The audit revealed current regulations were in substantial compliance with Title 13, but a number of areas in need of improvement were discovered. Goal of the project was to correct inconsistent mapping, clarify ambiguous code language, and uniformly map similar resources.

Vice Chair Kudrna told Council the map and code project was a detailed project with a large amount of information to assimilate. Commission would like Council to remain informed of the issues and decision making process to ensure the project was moving in a direction Council could support. Commissioner Shearer commented that for code to be effective, enforcement policies had to be supported by the Council and for either to work, Council support was critical.

The Council and Commission agreed that more frequent updates with less volume of information would be beneficial to both. Council would better understand reasons and rationale for key decision making by the Commission and be kept abreast of public outreach and input. Commission would have affirmation that research, outreach and decision making processes were proceeding in a direction supported by Council.

Options discussed to increase communication between the two bodies included: assign a Council liaison to the Commission, scheduling more frequent joint work sessions with the Council and the

Commission, including Commission minutes in Council packets, and increased Staff updates to Council. Council and Commission agreed to hold joint work sessions throughout the amendment process, increased Staff updates at Council meetings, and including Commission minutes in Council packets.

When discussing assigning a Council liaison City Attorney Paul Elsner commented the practice was legal and for quasi-judicial matters the Council liaison would have to exclaim ex-parte contact. Mr. Elsner also commented that Council should have faith in the process and the function of the Planning Commission. The Commission was a citizen advisory committee, appointed by Council to act diligently and responsibly in decision making and public outreach processes in matters before them. Council should have confidence in Planning Commission recommendations and the process to direct matters back to the Commission when needed.

**3. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Keith Kudrna, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Devree A. Leymaster  
Administrative Program Coordinator  
Community Development Dept.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_