

CITY OF MEDINA
Planning Commission Meeting

January 27, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Medina City Hall Council Chambers
501 Evergreen Point Road

CALL TO ORDER

The Planning Commission meeting of January 27, 2015, was called to order at 5:56 PM by Chair Nunn.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Heija Nunn, Jeanne Carlson, Peter May, Mark Nelson, Peter Papano, Randy Reeves and Vice-Chair Shawn Schubring.

Absent:

Staff Present: Robert Grumbach, Development Services Director
Kristin McKenna, Development Services Coordinator
Michael Sauerwein, City Manager
Tom Early, City Tree Consultant

ELECTIONS (5:57 PM)

Chair Nunn turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Schubring who called for nominations for the 2015 Planning Commission Chair.

MOTION NUNN / SECOND MAY TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER REEVES AS PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR. APPROVED 7 – 0*. (5:58 PM)

*Note: no other nominations were made for chair.

Chair Reeves called for nominations for Vice-Chair.

MOTION CARLSON / SECOND NUNN TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER SCHUBRING AS VICE CHAIR. APPROVED 7 – 0*. (5:59 PM)

*Note: no other nominations were made for vice-chair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5:59 PM)

Grumbach made the following announcements:

- Public Works Director Joe Willis is retiring.
- Donna Goodman's employment status with the City has changed and she is now on extended leave.
- Jen Newton has joined the City and is assisting with the Deputy City Clerk responsibilities.
- City Council is still working on the Boarding House Ordinance.

Commissioner Nunn announced her resignation from the Planning Commission. Nunn expressed her deep appreciation to the Planning Commission, City Council and City Staff.

MOTION MAY / SECOND REEVES EXPRESSING THE COMMISSION'S APPRECIATION FOR NUNN'S LONG SERVICE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION. APPROVED 6 – 0. NUNN ABSTAINED. (6:05 PM)

Nunn exited the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (6:05 PM)

MOTION NELSON / SECOND CARLSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2014, PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING AS WRITTEN. APPROVED 6 – 0. (6:05 PM)

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (6:06 PM)

- Miles Adam addressed the City's comprehensive plan, specifically Chapter 6 pertaining to parks and open spaces. Adam expressed his desire for the Commission and the Park Board to work together on this.
- Doug Hutson addressed the tree code and urged the Commission to listen to the voice of the people.
- Sheree Wen addressed safety concerns regarding hazardous trees during storms, trees with big leaves and overall neighborhood safety.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OTHER BUSINESS (6:27 PM)

1) Phase Two Tree Code Update Discussion

Grumbach started by reminding the Commission about the direction from the Council for a major policy shift away from how the current tree code works. He noted that nothing in the draft code being presented was permanent and everything is open for discussion. Grumbach then began the tree code update discussion with an overview of the draft, focusing on these key points:

- Goal is to maintain existing tree canopy.
- Incorporates a city-wide comprehensive approach.
- New regulations do not focus on tree removal only.
- Tree diameter inches no longer used to calculate tree replacement on private property.
- New protection for high valued trees.

Following the overview, discussion took place among the Commissioners and Grumbach.

Schubring commented that he liked the separation between development vs. non-development properties.

Papano was in general agreement with Schubring's comments and added that he does not want to see something too complex for the individual home owners.

Carlson also supported Schubring's and Papano's comments.

Nelson stated that he believed they were heading in the right direction.

May commented that there are a lot of positive aspects to the draft tree code.

Chair Reeves complemented the draft outline and stated it would be helpful to have Grumbach walk them through some examples.

City Tree Consultant Tom Early and Grumbach presented to the Commission an example of how the tree code would be applied to a property that was under development.

Further discussion followed. Grumbach noted that Council wants to see a recommendation from the Commission by the Council's May 2015 meeting. The Commissioners stated that they need some addition time on this and agreed to set a special meeting.

2) 2015 Mandatory Review and Update to the Comprehensive Plan Discussion

Grumbach distributed a hand out to the Commissioners regarding the Comprehensive Plan and invited Tess Brandon from the Watershed Company to the

podium to discuss the plan with the Commissioners. Tess went over some key elements of the plan and stated that she does not see any major policy changes. Grumbach stated that, after the public process, the plan will be presented to the Commission for another review before a hearing is scheduled.

3) 2015 Planning Commission Work Plan

Grumbach went over with the Commission their accomplishments for last year. Grumbach reviewed the 2015 work plan with the Commission.

MOTION MAY / SECOND SCHUBRING TO ADOPT THE 2015 PLANNING COMMISSION WORK PLAN. APPROVED 6 - 0. (8:31 PM)

The Commission agreed to set a special meeting for February 10, 2015 at 6:00 pm to focus discussion on the tree code.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MAY / SECOND SCHUBRING TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 27, 2015, PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING. APPROVED 6 - 0. (8:32 PM)

A special Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

The next regular Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

Minutes taken by:



Kristin McKenna
Development Services Coordinator