

Spokane Plan Commission

March 28, 2018

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm

Attendance:

- Commission Members Present: Dennis Dellwo- President; Michael Baker; John Dietzman; Greg Francis; Sylvia St. Clair; Carole Shook; Lori Kinnear - City Council Liaison.
- Commission Members Absent: Todd Beyreuther; Christopher Batten; Patricia Kienholz Community Assembly Liaison (TBD).
- Quorum met.
- Staff Members Present: Heather Trautman; Jacqui Halvorson.

Public Comment Period:

Carol Ellis

Carol asked that when redesigning the Post Street Bridge, the City considers adding a public transport tramway up and around Anthony's that rings around and crosses the river into the Park also incorporating the Arena. This could be a type of wayfinding for that area.

Commission Briefing Session:

1. Approve March 14, 2018 meeting minutes.

John made a motion to approve; Mike seconded. Minutes approved 6/0.

2. City Council Report: Councilmember Kinnear

- a. Lori indicated they had a quiet Council meeting on Monday.
- b. There was a PeTT-organized forum regarding the posting of 20-mph speed limits around parks, to invite the community to join the conversation; four council members attended. With a traffic officer and Streets Department staff at the forum, it morphed into requesting that all residential streets be posted at 20-mph, and to add more police enforcement. City staff and City Council should gather data and costs and bring this information to PeTT in June/July, and resume the conversation with PeTT. As a community, folks have wanted Council to focus on property crime; and now there is a shift for us to focus on traffic speeds in neighborhoods, parks and schools.
- c. John asked if the problem is 25mph vs 20mph, or is it that folks aren't even going close to the speed limit, thus the need for enforcement.
- d. Lori indicated speed is a perception issue. This is why we need the data. To accurately identify the problem.
- e. Reducing the speed limit would pose enforcement issues, as we already have four officers that navigate around the city just focusing on schools.

3. Community Assembly Liaison Report - PC member Greg Francis gave a status report. (CA Position is currently vacant and is in the recruiting process - hoping to have someone within three months.)

- a. CA didn't meet since our last meeting; LU did meet and were briefed by Melissa Owen on the electric fence ordinance.

4. President Report - Dennis Dellwo:

Nothing at this time.

5. Transportation Sub-Committee Report: John Dietzman

- a. The PCTS will meet April 10 and consider workshops for projects to add to the 6-Year Transportation Plan, after which we will bring a recommendation forward to the Plan Commission for approval on April 11th.
- b. Tax Transportation Impact Fee System Update Hearing update: A briefing must occur prior to it coming to the Plan Commission.

6. Secretary Report: Heather Trautman

- a. Heather introduced herself and summarized her transition and the various opportunities that will be presented with the department reorganization.
- b. She encouraged the commissioners to read the ONS Friday Newsletter on-line. She summarized the various meetings, volunteer opportunities, and projects discussed in the newsletter.
- c. Heather noted she is very available to all PC members on the 3rd floor, although the web site has the wrong phone number - correct number is 625-6854.
- d. Greg asked about the email archiving situation. IT suggested that you move emails over two month old onto your desktop at this time. You can make a request to IT to retrieve older emails. There may be new software later that allows more storage space for your emails at the City.
- e. Heather encouraged the commissioners to attend the two remaining North Spokane Corridor charrettes.

Workshops:

1) Comprehensive Plan Amendments Overview 2017-2018 - Tirrell Black

Tirrell gave a presentation and reviewed the amendment process to date. This topic was also briefed at the last Urban Development Committee meeting. There will be a public comment review period this spring that will include workshops. A SEPA determination will be made by staff. Tirrell reviewed the proposed amendments.

- Questions asked and answered.

2) DTC-100 Zone Amendment Workshop - Kevin Freibott

Kevin gave a presentation on the proposed amendments to the height requirements in the DTC-100 zone; a background and recap from the last meeting; and reviewed options and refinements from the original request. Today, he hoped the Plan Commission could provide a recommendation for amendment language that he can bring back for a full hearing at the PC meeting next month. Discussion centered on square footage maximum of floor plates, building heights, distance between buildings, mass, and shadows. Also discussed recommendations from the Working Group based around the applicants request. Options now are: 1) No restrictions in height or mass; 2) 15,000 sf 50 feet apart; 3) 12,000 sf at 75 feet apart; 4) No change to the code.

These four options were looked at in alignment with the comprehensive plan goals; the Downtown Plan goals and policies; results of our public engagement process; and with the desired outcomes of the Working Group including: connection to the park, activated streets, etc. He then reviewed potential code language changes. The Chair asked the commissioners for consensus on a recommendation. Mike indicated that the Working Group felt that 12,000 with 75 was a good compromise. Discussion ensued. The Chair suggested recommending a 12,000-sf floor plate with a 75-ft separation and a majority of the commissioners agreed. The Chair directed staff to bring the proposed amendment back to the PC with those numbers for a hearing.

- Questions asked and answered

3) University Bridge Naming

Denny noted that he had reviewed the language around the naming of the University Bridge, and felt the commissioners decision made sense, although he wasn't present during that discussion. He read the Plan Commission's recommendation (9/0) of naming the new bridge, either "University District

Gateway”, or “University District Gateway Bridge”. He asked the commissioners if he could go ahead and sign the findings and conclusions. All agreed.

Heather indicated that, once signed, she could forward this recommendation to City Council as soon as possible for consideration; and brief on April 9th for the Economic Development Committee meeting.

Items of Interest

Greg asked about City funding for registration for the APA Planning Retreat at Priest Lake May 31-June 1. Heather indicated that the conference is fully-funded. Dennis asked commissioners to email a request to Heather if they are interested in attending.

Heather asked if anyone had updates for the April PC Agenda.
The next PC hearing is on April 25th.

The next Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for **April 11, 2018**.

Meeting adjourned 4:50 PM.