City of Burien

BURIEN PLANNING COMMISSION
January 28, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Multipurpose Room/Council Chambers
MINUTES

To hear the Planning Commission’s full discussion of a specific topic or the complete meeting, the following resources are available:

- Watch the video-stream available on the City website, www.burienwa.gov
- Check out a DVD of the Council Meeting from the Burien Library
- Order a DVD of the meeting from the City Clerk, (206) 241-4647

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Jim Clingan called the January 28, 2015, meeting of the Burien Planning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL
Present: Jim Clingan, Butch Henderson, Joey Martinez, Amy Rosenfield, Brooks Stanfield, Douglas Weber
Absent: Curtis Olsen
Administrative staff present: Chip Davis, Community Development director; David Johanson, senior planner

AGENDA CONFIRMATION
Direction/Action
Motion was made by Vice Chair Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Stanfield, to approve the agenda for the January 28, 2015, meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Direction/Action
Motion was made by Vice Chair Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, and passed 5-0 to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2014, meeting.
Commissioner Rosenfield arrived at 7:02 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
A. 2014 Comprehensive Plan Action Summary
David Johanson, senior planner, said that now that the commission has completed its policy work -- the Comprehensive Plan amendments -- there is some work to do on the regulation side, which is the Zoning Code. He noted that the City Council adopted most of the proposed amendments to the Housing
Element, although there were a few adjustments and additions. The proposed Utilities Element amendments also were adopted with a few adjustments. The amendments removing the PAA and the Shoreline Master Program consistency items were adopted as recommended by the commission.

The rezone request for Miller Creek Junction was approved as recommended by the Commission; however, the City Council decided to approve the Lake Burien rezone request, contrary to the Commission’s recommendation against doing so.

The proposed minor Zoning Code amendments were put off so the council could concentrate on the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments. Therefore the proposed minor Zoning Code amendments will be under consideration by the council in 2015.

B. 2015 Planning Commission Work Program and Agenda Topics

Mr. Johanson reviewed the proposed Planning Commission work program and calendar for the coming year. He said staff is anticipating receiving two site-specific rezone requests for consideration in 2015.

Chip Davis, Community Development director, said there is an opportunity this year to have several joint meetings of the City Council and Planning Commission to work out the council’s expectations regarding the keeping of animals, significant tree retention standards, and the critical areas regulations update before the commission begins its work on those topics. The format of the meetings is still being determined. He said the critical areas ordinance update is a particularly good project with which to start.

Mr. Davis asked the commissioners for their thoughts on improving the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code amendment process and building bridges with the councilmembers. Chair Clingan said he thought a joint meeting, particularly about the critical areas ordinance update, with both bodies hearing the same information from staff at the same time, would be a good idea.

Commissioner Stanfield said he agreed with Chair Clingan. He said that staff’s efforts to convene a discussion to help the commission understand what council is looking for on certain things is a way to ensure efficient use of the commission’s time and ensure that the commission would be able to present things that are useful to the council, whether or not the council ultimately agrees with the commission’s recommendation.

Vice Chair Martinez said the silence from the council when the Lake Burien rezone came up for vote was “deafening.”

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Vice Chair Martinez said, “Go, Hawks!”

Commissioner Stanfield said he is transitioning to an emergency response position at work and in the future he may have to miss a few meetings unexpectedly because of deployment to chemical spills, oil spills and similar emergencies. He thanked commissioners for their patience when this does happen.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Davis said the City Council has directed staff to draft a handbook for advisory board/commission members and that process currently is underway. It will include job descriptions, basic responsibilities and expectations, and a code of conduct similar to that imposed on staff and the City Council. The handbook will provide role clarity when soliciting public involvement on the commission and boards in the future. Adoption of the handbook will be administrative; it is not required to go before the City Council, although council may ask to adopt some components of it such as the job descriptions or code of conduct.
ADJOURNMENT

Direction/Action
Vice Chair Martinez moved for adjournment; Commissioner Stanfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

APPROVED: February 25, 2015

/s/ Jim Clingan, chair
Planning Commission