

UNION GAP PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF
January 28th, 2014

Call to Order:

The Regular and Study Session Meeting of the Union Gap Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman (Name) at 7:02 p.m.

Planning Commission Members Present:

Chairman Mike Moore, Commissioner Rick Cecil, Commissioner Dave Hansen, and Commissioner Sandy Dailey were present.

Staff Present:

David L. Spurlock, Director; and Andrea Ely, Administrative Secretary were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
December 17th, 2013

Motion by Commissioner Cecil, second by Commissioner Dailey to approve the Regular & Study Session Meeting Minutes of December 17th, 2013; motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Moore asked if there was any discussion for the regular meeting; the Director just replied all his comments would be related to I-502/AG Opinion in Communications.

COMMUNICATIONS

I-502/AG Opinion Discussion

The Director asked the Planning Commission (PC) to refer to the *AG Opinion* included in the packet provided; in summary it states Cities have jurisdiction to regulate beyond I-502 and enforce marijuana laws and bans. The City of Yakima has recently placed their ban, so this is a critical time in proceeding with the Union Gap City ordinance.

Commissioner Cecil asked how the tribal position affects the City. The Director answered that tribal lands are federal so it should not have much impact. The *AG Opinion* directly relates to Cities. That opinion would have to come from Eric Holder or the Federal Commission and involve treaty and deeded or trust properties. Some properties on tribal land are owned by US citizens, which would be another issue.

Commissioner Hansen asked what the next steps are regarding I-502. The Director stated at the last Council meeting the moratorium from October was on the agenda. It was an emergency measure to address land use regulations. Part of that ordinance required a public hearing to be held within 60 days. The hearing did not occur so it deemed the moratorium null and void. Last night a three-month moratorium was passed, which gives the PC time to take public testimony. The public hearing is on the agenda for the City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, Feb. 10th, 2014 at 6:00pm.

Commissioner Hansen stated he has the Yakima Planning Commission packet, and attempted to review as much as he could. It is his record, but offered to lend it to anyone interested in reviewing it. The Director wanted to clarify for the record that the packet Commissioner Hansen is referring to is the one from the City of Yakima, Attorney Mark Kunkler.

Chairman Moore asked what the three-month moratorium will entail. The Director stated at the previous PC meeting staff was to submit a draft ordinance, yet with the release of the *AG Opinion* staff decided to wait. There was discussion on buffers and going above and beyond what I-502 recommended in addition to the one-thousand foot buffer. The *AG Opinion* now states the PC has more options available. The next regular meeting is on Feb. 25th; the Director recommended a special meeting for staff to present a draft ordinance. That meeting will occur Tuesday, Feb. 4th, 2014 at 7:00pm.

The Director stated Council spoke about I-502 last night and inquired about what the PC past year activity. A point was made to commend the PC for their involvement and due to the methodical discussion and process, the Director is confident the PC will make a good recommendation to the Council.

Chairman Moore asked if there was any other business. The Director wanted it noted that Council meetings are now every Monday. The (2nd and 4th) Mondays are standard meetings; the (1st and 3rd) Mondays are Committee meetings (Finance, Public Works, Community Development, etc.). Committee meetings are for discussion, not action. When the draft ordinance is ready to present to Council, it can be discussed at the Committee meeting prior.

Commissioner Hansen asked if these were formal meetings. The Director replied the (1st and 3rd) meetings will be formal public meetings consistent with the public meeting act. Chairman Hansen wanted to know if they will impact the PC meetings. The Director replied if a committee meeting night lies on a Monday holiday, it would move to the Tuesday following; the PC would have to adjust the regular meeting.

Chairman Moore asked if there were new business applications to discuss. The Director stated a shipping and distribution center (about 60,000sf) is looking at an undeveloped property, which he believes will happen in early spring. Chairman Moore asked about Lowe's property and if there is anything interest. The Director replied there have been multiple calls from one group, but no official applications.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Chairman Moore reiterated that the next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 4th and requested the next meeting agenda to remain open, on the assumptions that a special meeting may be required. Commissioner Hansen asked if the meetings were advertised. The Director replied they are advertised and the meetings minutes will be online soon.

Chairman Moore asked about the open PC position. The Director was not aware of any inquiries as they are directed to the City Manager. The advertisement is on the main webpage and in the newsletter. Chairman Moore suggested Council should put a word out for those that don't get the newsletter or go online.

The Director wanted to give information about the Main Street Development. TASK Force meetings consisting of citizens, consultants and architects have begun. On January 22nd a "Walk & Talk" was done; about fourteen individuals rode a City bus down Main Street. Interests were discussed—among them historic landmarks, landscaping, parking, and priority goals. Commissioner Dailey asked if there were meeting minutes available. The Director said the consultants took minutes and staff will get them online.

Chairman Moore asked once the Task Force completed their plan, will it go through the PC first or supersede the PC decision making. The Director replied any development regulations will go through the PC. The Director said there seems to be excitement and momentum in the meetings. Commissioner Hansen stated funds are there; the Director added the initial project is moving forward but the southern west area will need funds.

Commissioner Hansen asked about the status of the reader board. The Director stated a Council member mentioned it during signage discussions in the meeting. Chairman Moore agrees it is a wonderful idea to have a reader board.

Commissioner Dailey announced that she has returned back to school and Monday nights will be of conflict in attending Council meetings. She has found them helpful and encourages other PC members to attend if possible. Chairman Moore stated the PC will do their best to support her new schedule.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:32p.m; motion by Commissioner Hansen, second by Commissioner Cecil.

Chairman, Mike Moore

ATTEST:

Andrea Ely, Administrative Secretary