

**CITY OF COVINGTON
Planning Commission Minutes**

May 1, 2014

City Hall Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the regular meeting of the Planning Commission to order at 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Gilbert-Smith, Jim Langehough, Ed Holmes, Paul Max, Sean Smith and Alex White

MEMBERS ABSENT – Bill Judd

STAFF PRESENT

Richard Hart, Community Development Director
Salina Lyons, Principal Planner
Ann Mueller, Senior Planner
Kelly Thompson, Planning Commission Secretary

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- **1. Vice-Chair Max moved and Commissioner White seconded to approve the April 17, 2014 minutes and consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0.**

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC HEARING - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

2. Discussion of Consultant for GMA Comprehensive Plan Update

Community Development Director Richard Hart reported that the city sent out a request for proposal in March for a consultant to conduct the Comprehensive Plan Update. The City received and interviewed the three candidates and selected Studio Cascade for completing the Comprehensive Plan Update.

In the next several months staff will be working on the Development Activity report and corresponding maps as well as policy issues on the sign code and a user guide for shoreline regulations.

Mr. Hart recently attended the APA conference in Atlanta and visited Suwanee, Georgia, a town similar in size and demographics that built a new town center through a bond issue. He encouraged the Planning Commission to check out their website. In the past 10 years, Suwanee purchased 20 acres and constructed a new city hall, public plaza and park on 10 of the acres. They later sold the remaining 10 acres to private sector which paid for the retail and residential development. They have an incredible town center, and the demographics of their community are very similar to Covington. It was interesting to look at that community as a potential model and they were very successful in their efforts.

Commissioner Holmes reported that he has been receiving feedback from his neighbors that their biggest citizen concern is traffic. Ms. Lyons responded that we will be discussing their concerns and our traffic concurrency system in the next couple of months with a presentation to the commission.

ADJOURN

The April 17, 2014 Planning Commission Meeting adjourned 7:21 at p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Thompson, Planning Commission Secretary