

**CITY OF COVINGTON
Planning Commission Minutes**

2015
January 15, 2014

City Hall Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Gilbert-Smith, Ed Holmes, Bill Judd, Jim Langehough, and Alex White

MEMBERS ABSENT

Paul Max

STAFF PRESENT

Salina Lyons, Principal Planner
Ann Mueller, Senior Planner
Kelly Thompson, Planning Commission Secretary

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Election of New Planning Commission Chair

The nominations to elect a new Planning Commission Chair were opened.

- **Commissioner Holmes moved and Commissioner Gilbert-Smith seconded the nomination of Commissioner Judd as the Planning Commission Chair. The motion carried 5-0.**

Chair Judd took over the meeting.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- **1. Commissioner Holmes moved and Commissioner White seconded to approve the December 18, 2014 minutes and consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.**

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC HEARING - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. Review Revised Draft Comprehensive Plan Chapters – Intro, Land Use, Housing and Economic Development

Senior Planner Ann Mueller explained that the document that was distributed to the Planning Commission is a work in progress. Staff recently decided that the consultant selected to complete the Comprehensive Plan Update was not the best fit for the city's needs, and we will be working to hire a new consultant. The most recent round of edits has been completed by staff.

Commissioner Holmes liked that the previous consultant was going to list the five most critical needs of the city and the action items associated with each task. He would like to see the new consultant provide a similar action plan with transportation being the highest priority.

It is noted that page 7 and page 8 are duplicate.

Chair Judd added that he would also like to see transportation added and identified as a priority. Ms. Mueller replied that there is a transportation section that has not yet been presented to the Planning Commission.

Chair Judd shared that he would like to see a more streamlined process and greater coordination of efforts between the city and the Covington Water District. He would like to see a partnership in the development process. Principal Planner Salina Lyons explained some of the current challenges with the water district's policies and ensured that staff is working to streamline coordination throughout the permit process.

Ms. Lyons shared that staff has met with Berk & Associates and Stalzer & Associates, who came in second for our RFP selection process for our Comprehensive Plan Update. Over the next couple of weeks, they will analyze the current state of the plan and identify any missing information. There are several elements of the plan that have not yet been touched on in the current draft document.

NEW BUSINESS - None

ATTENDANCE VOTE

- **Commissioner Gilbert-Smith moved and Commissioner White seconded to excuse Vice-Chair Max. Motion carried 5-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

The deadline to receive applications for the 2015 Comprehensive Plan Amendment process passed on December 19, 2014 without receiving any applications.

Ms. Lyons asked the Planning Commission for their level of interest in an overview of transportation, traffic concurrency and review of the existing issues and projected growth. If there is interest, this will be added to the agenda for an upcoming Planning Commission meeting. The commissioners concurred.

Commissioner Langehough asked how the replacement of the consultant on the Comprehensive Plan Update affects the timeline for completion. Ms. Lyons Salina shared that the timeline should not change significantly. The city may be ineligible to apply for grants until the Comprehensive Plan Update is complete.

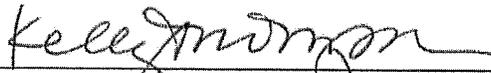
Staff is currently accepting applications to fill the vacant Planning Commission seat.

Temporary sign code updates are postponed until a Supreme Court decision is reached in the Gilbert case which is not expected until June or July 2015.

ADJOURN

The January 15, 2015 Planning Commission Meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Thompson, Planning Commission Secretary