



City of Arkansas City

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 5:30 PM – 400 W Madison Ave, Arkansas City, KS

Call to Order

Prior to Roll Call Tom Wheatley asked Josh White to say a brief prayer in honor of longtime Planning Commissioner Mary Benton who had recently passed away. White agreed and led a short prayer to start the meeting.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Lloyd Colston, Brandon Jellings, Kyle Lewis, Cody Richardson, Tom Wheatley

ABSENT: Mary Benton, Ian Kuhn

Staff present at roll call was Principal Planner Josh White. Also present was Ken Harader and Harper Jellings.

Consent Agenda

1. Meeting Minutes, **January 10, 2023 meeting.**

Motion made by Jellings, Seconded by Colston to approve the minutes as written.

Voting Yea: Colston, Jellings, Lewis, Richardson, Wheatley

Consideration

2. **Consider a recommendation on the proposed 2022 Comprehensive Plan updates**

Wheatley asked if anyone from the public had any further comments. There were no comments. He then asked White to explain any changes made to the Plan since the last meeting. White said he added two actions, one in Chapter 3 concerning the development of housing plans and one in Chapter 5 concerning a facility plan for the library. Richardson also discussed the Recreation Center but ultimately it was decided that a plan was already being formulated for that facility.

Motion made by Colston, Seconded by Wheatley to recommend approval of the 2022 Comprehensive Plan updates to the City Commission.

Voting Yea: Colston, Jellings, Lewis, Richardson, Wheatley

Other Items

Wheatley discussed a letter that was sent to and read by the City Commission at a recent meeting. He said the intent of the letter was just to communicate the frustration regarding the land purchase of the 101 acre parcel. It was written by himself and Kuhn. They didn't intend for it to be read publicly but it since it was he wanted to discuss it. It was discussed that the Planning Commission wasn't necessarily asking to have a say in land purchases but that they would like to be informed about them. Members of the public chose to go to the next public meeting after that City Commission meeting and members were frustrated because they didn't have any knowledge of the proposed action. Ken Harader of 1313 N 1st Street expressed that he was just looking for

more transparency and felt like the item was rushed. Commissioners acknowledged that the item was tabled. White also mentioned a grant was being applied for now that would pay for the purchase of the land and infrastructure and another grant would be used for down payment assistance for the buyers that would be future residents of a potential development just north of Forrest Glenn. Harader also mentioned that he would like to see public notices placed on the city website in addition to the required publication in the newspaper. White promised to look into that.

Adjournment

Motion made by Colston, Seconded by Wheatley to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Yea: Colston, Jellings, Lewis, Richardson, Wheatley