Minutes - Final
DE Schutes County Planning Commission
De Schutes Services Center
1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon, 97703
December 9, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

This meeting was conducted in person, electronically, and by phone. It was audio and video recorded and can be accessed at the Deschutes County Meeting Portal website

www.deschutes.org/meetings

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Commissioner Crawford (via Zoom). Commissioners present via Zoom: Chair Hudson (joined late), Susan Altman, Toni Williams, Steve Swisher, Maggie Kirby. Staff present in person or via Zoom: Peter Gutowsky, Community Development Director; Will Groves, Planning Manager; Kyle Collins, Associate Planner.

II. Public Comments

None

III. Action items

1. Planning Commission discussion with High Desert Food and Farm Alliance (HDFFA) panel, Peter Russell, Senior Transportation Planner

Will Groves, Planning Manager, presented on behalf of Peter Russell and summarized his submitted memo to discuss preferences for potential changes in how Deschutes County approaches certain land uses in farm zones. Katrina Van Dis introduced the HDFFA panel and began discussion. Panel requested the following priorities: remove financial and technical risks to land use permit issuance, move from conditional to out-right permit use process, lower land use fees or subsidize them, prioritize Ag permits, eliminate the $5k Hearings Officer deposit. Further discussed the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) decision regarding incidental and subordinate uses being capped at 40% on agri-tourism.

Chair Hudson request a motion. Commissioner Williams motioned to accept recommendations for support and proposals from the HDFFA. Commissioner Swisher seconded the motion. Chair
Hudson, Commissioners Swisher, Kirby, Williams, Altman voted yes, Commissioner Crawford voted no. Chair Hudson requested a motion. Commissioner Swisher motioned for Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to lobby the State of Oregon to change incidental and subordinate requirements to be more economically favorable to support small farmers via agri-tourism. Commissioner Crawford seconded the motion. Unanimous vote of yes.

2. Planning Commission update on TGM grant for Tumalo, Sisters Country trails, Peter Russell, Senior Transportation Planner

Will Groves presented on behalf of Peter Russell an update on the Transportation Growth Management (TGM) program grant received for the Tumalo Community Plan as well as Sisters Country rural trails. Joint program between Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) and Dept. of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). Looking to start January 2022, 12-18 month horizon.

3. Continuing Preparation for Water Panel Discussions, Kyle Collins, Associate Planner

Kyle Collins, Associate Planner, presented follow up discussion regarding new water panel series providing a framework for water resource issues for the comprehensive plan update. Staff summarized previous discussions and recommended two panels early 2022 on the following topics: scientific background, objective facts and user group perspectives. Commissioner Altman recommended including a Water Law attorney on the panel. Commissioner Swisher would like to include discussion about the wastewater component and City UGB expansion for increased water use permitting. Chair Hudson requested that panelists be thoroughly briefed on Planning Commission interests.

IV. Planning Commission and Staff Comments

Peter Gutowsky requested a socially distant spring retreat (Apr/May) as pandemic allows to celebrate initiated noteworthy projects. Hiring a consultant in 2022 to engage the community for 18 mos. to update the comprehensive plan. Also, Long Range Senior Planner process under way, hoping to announce at next meeting.

Chair Hudson announced this is his last meeting as Chair, new Chair elected in January 2022.

V. Adjourn

Next Planning Commission meeting will be on January 13, 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
All materials including (but not limited to) video, presentations, written material and submittals are subject to the County Retention Policy. All items are posted and available for public viewing on the Deschutes County Meeting Portal. For further detail on this and other meetings please follow link below.