



Minutes - Draft

DESCHUTES COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

DESCHUTES SERVICES CENTER

1300 NW WALL STREET, BEND, OREGON, 97703

NOVEMBER 18, 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 5:30 p.m. by Vice Chair Jessica Kieras (via Zoom). Commissioners present via Zoom: Susan Altman, Toni Williams, Steve Swisher and Dale Crawford, Maggie Kirby. Staff present in person or via Zoom: Peter Gutowsky, Community Development Director; Will Groves, Planning Manager; Kyle Collins, Associate Long Range Planner; Tanya Saltzman, Senior Long Range Planner; Tarik Rawlings, Associate Long Range Planner.

II. Approval of Minutes – October 28, 2021

No further edits, Commissioner Williams motioned to approve the minutes, Commissioner Swisher seconded the motion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Public Comments

Paul Bennett commented on the importance of educating about the night skies. Peter Gutowsky discussed email from Bill Kuhn regarding Wildlife Inventory Update. Also announced that Will Groves accepted the position of Planning Manager. Will Groves introduced himself as upcoming Planning Manager and discussed upcoming planning projects.

IV. 2021 Housekeeping Amendments – Public Hearing

Kyle Collins advised that this is a continuation of the public hearing that was opened on October 28, 2021. Discussed the participation process and presented the proposed amendments for file no. 247-21-000862-TA. (See Power Point presentation) Opened for public testimony, none given.

Commissioner Crawford stepped in as Chair due to technical difficulties for Vice Chair Kieras. Recognized a motion from Commissioner Williams to close the hearing and move to deliberations. Commissioner Swisher seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Kieras returned to meeting. Vote was unanimous to close public hearing and commence deliberations. Commissioner Swisher motioned to approve 2021 Housekeeping Amendments as presented this evening and move forward to County Commissioners. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous to approve amendments and forward recommendation to County Commissioners.

V. Wildlife Inventory update – Status report

Tanya Saltzman presented general update regarding three selected inventories, Mule Deer Winter Range, Elk Winter Range and Sensitive Birds (golden eagles, bald eagles). Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) chose to update Mule Deer Winter Range inventory on November 1, 2021 meeting. Pilot project completion is 9-12 months.

VI. SB 391 / Rural ADU Project Update

Tanya Saltzman presented update regarding Senate Bill 391, which allows counties to allow accessory dwelling units (ADU's) in rural residential areas. Provided BOCC draft code language. Approximately 7,000 properties in Deschutes County may be eligible. Additional State of Oregon wildfire mapping coordination needed.

VII. Review of Preliminary Work Plan – Deschutes County Dark Skies Ordinance Update

Tarik Rawlings outlined new Work Plan item to update to the Dark Skies ordinance. Received a number of written comments. A Dark Skies panel to be formed and convened. Commissioner Williams noted that Sunriver is the first city in Oregon to receive a Dark Skies designation. Robin Werdal provided comment as well as Bill Kowalik, Chairperson, Oregon Chapter, International Dark Sky Association, supportive of redoing 1994 lighting ordinance.

VIII. Planning Commission and Staff Comments

Peter Gutowsky shared 2021 Comprehensive Plan Request for Proposal initiated 11/15/21, link shared with commission. Also, December 9th meeting includes reconvening small panel for Rural Economic Development discussion; an update on the Transportation Growth Management Grant, and a discussion on convening a water panel. Acknowledged Tanya Saltzman and team for creating customized project website for Wildlife Inventory Update process to keep public informed. Discussed Dark Skies public comments.

Commissioner Swisher congratulated Will Groves; commented that he appreciated Director Gutowsky's comments about fair access for hearings procedures. Commissioner Swisher went on to say that the Planning Commission is a first point of contact for many members of the public and they may not always know the correct procedures and processes. We should strive to make the public comfortable in attending meetings and allowing them to make procedurally appropriate statements during out comments from the public portion of the meetings; also noted Vice Chair Kieras' positive chairing of the meeting. Commissioner Crawford gave the same for kudos for Vice Chair Kieras.

Commissioner Altman commented on the public comments, interest and participation for the Wildlife Inventory and Dark Skies projects.

Commissioner Kirby congratulated both Vice Chair Kieras and Will Groves.

Vice Chair Kieras talked about the public comment involvement.

IX. Adjourn

Next Planning Commission meeting will be on December 9, 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Griffin

Administrative Assistant

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.

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