



PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2024

This meeting was conducted in person at Snoqualmie City Hall and remotely using Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL: Chair Marusiak called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Commissioners:

Chair Luke Marusiak, Ashleigh Kilcup (remote), Steve Smith (remote), Darrell Lambert (remote), and Dan Murphy (remote) were present.

Commissioners Andre Testman and Michael Krohn were absent.

Councilmember liaison Jolyon Johnson was present.

Andrew Levins (remote), Land Use Planning Consultant from Van Ness Feldman, was present.

Jeff Gray (remote), Senior Wetland Biologist from Otak, was present.

City Staff:

Emily Arteche, Community Development Director; Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk; Nicole Wiebe, Community Liaison; and Andrew Jongekryg, IT Support Systems.

PUBLIC COMMENT

AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

MINUTES

1. The minutes dated October 7, 2024, were unanimously approved.

COUNCIL LIASION UPDATE

Councilmember Johnson briefly discussed the strategic implementation plan for parks, recreation, open spaces, and trails. There were several recommendations for the future such as:

- Creating an equitable and inclusive park system that includes expanding the Community Center for additional programming and capacity.
- Adding a dog park on the Ridge.
- Reinvesting in our aging parks by creating a life cycle replacement program for the aging park equipment, especially playground equipment.
- Reimagining the railroad park to be more of an inclusive space and a spot to congregate.
- Enhancing community connectivity by acquiring land near the riverfront trail.
- Celebrating our natural resources by expanding our program offerings to include natural and recreation education, as well as acquiring and protecting open spaces.
- Coverings for some of the outdoor spaces.

Commissioner questions followed.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

2. **PUBLIC HEARING: Historic Design Review Requirements Variance.**

Chair Marusiak opened the Public Hearing at 7:13 p.m. With no one wishing to speak, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:14 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY ITEMS/ REGULATIONS

3. **PUBLIC HEARING: Historic Downtown Retail District Overlay Code Amendments.**

Chair Marusiak opened the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m. Public comments were provided by:

- Laura Gowans.
- Elizabeth Hearing.
- Cristie Coffing.
- Liz Leffler.
- Chris McDonald.
- Wendy Thomas.

The public hearing closed at 7:34 p.m.

Commissioner discussion followed. The Commissioners agreed that additional consideration and deliberation is necessary and plan to revisit this agenda item at the next meeting on November 4, 2024.

4. **Critical Areas Ordinance Update Presentation.**

Senior Wetland Biologist Jeff Gray presented 2024 updates to Critical Area code based on the best available science. The most substantial change is to stream Riparian Management Zones (RMZ). RMZ is synonymous with buffers. Per Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife:

- Class 1 stream (Type S) RMZ – see SMC 19.08, Shoreline Regulations
- Class 2 stream (Type F) RMZ – increase from 75' to 200'
- Class 3 stream (Type Np) RMZ – increase from 50' to 100'
- Class 4 stream (Type Ns) RMZ – increase from 25' to 100'

Commissioners requested a map showing what properties in Snoqualmie are impacted by the increase in RMZ.

OTHER BUSINESS

Items of Planning Commission Interest

Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Murphy both addressed safety issues with reckless behavior of drivers on motorized scooters.

Upcoming Schedule

5. Future Agenda List.
6. Work Program.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Commissioner Marusiak, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kilcup to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. Motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes by Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk.

Recorded meeting audio is available on the City website after the meeting.

Minutes approved at the November 4, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting.