



CITY OF MERCER ISLAND PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR VIDEO MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 26th, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Hubbell at 6:11pm from a remote location.

PRESENT

Chair Daniel Hubbell, Commissioners Carolyn Boatsman, Jordan Friedman, Michael Murphy, Victor Raisys, and Tiffin Goodman were present.

All Commissioners participated in the meeting remotely using Zoom.

ABSENT

There were no absences.

STAFF PRESENT

Jeff Thomas, Interim CPD Director, Alison Van Gorp, Deputy CPD Director, Sarah Bluvias, Economic Development Coordinator, Adam Zack, Senior Planner, and Laurie Carlson, Senior Administrative Assistant, participated in the meeting remotely.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Agenda Item #1:

Election of a new Vice Chair to the Commission

Alison Van Gorp, Deputy CPD Director, gave a brief overview of the process the Commission uses for the election of Vice Chair.

Election of Vice Chair

Boatsman nominated Victor Raisys.

Friedman nominated Tiffin Goodman

Goodman nominated Mike Murphy

Vote 1

Raisys – 2 Votes

Goodman – 3 Votes

Murphy – 3 A majority of votes was not reached for any of the nominees.

CPD Deputy Director consulted the bylaws for direction on how to proceed with the vote. The bylaws offer no direction on how to proceed if a majority vote isn't reached.

The Commission agreed to take a second vote in the order the nominations were originally received following the procedure in City Council.

Commissioner Raisys withdrew from the nominations.

Vote 2

Raisys – 0

Goodman – 3 Votes

Murphy – 5 Votes

Commissioner Mike Murphy was elected Vice Chair.

Agenda Item #2: Amend Bylaws Pertaining to Meeting Schedule

CPD Deputy Director Van Gorp presented the text of the bylaws and proposed changes

The Commission deliberated on bylaws and changes

It was moved by Raisys; seconded by Friedman to:

Accept the bylaw amendment as presented by CPD Deputy Director Van Gorp

⇒ Passed 6-0

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances

PUBLIC HEARING

Agenda Item #1: ZTR21-005 Noise & Lighting

Chair Hubbell opened the public hearing at 6:30PM.

There were no public comments.

Chair Hubbell closed the public hearing at 6:30PM.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item #1: Approve the December 15, 2021, Minutes

It was moved by Friedman; seconded by Raisys to:

Approve the minutes from the December 15, 2021 meeting

⇒ Passed: 6-0

Agenda Item #2: Deliberate ZTR21-005 Noise & Lighting

Adam Zack, Senior Planner, gave a brief presentation on ZTR21-005 Noise and Lighting

The Commission reviewed the proposed amendment and asked questions of Staff.

The Commission deliberated on the proposed amendments.

It was moved by Raisys and seconded by Murphy to:

Accept staff recommendation on noise ordinance in presentation. Passed 6-0

It was moved by Boatsman and seconded by Goodman to:

Amend the draft code item section Q item #2 to add “or emanating from the use of a gas-powered blower”

⇒ Failed 1-5

Main motion passed 6-0.

It was moved by Boatsman and seconded by Raisys to:

Adopt draft lighting code amendments provided by staff.

Passed as amended 5-1

It was moved by Boatsman and seconded by Goodman to:

Amend Section K Item 1a by removing “Lighting within a public right-of-way” and replacing it with “Lighting installed by a public agency”

Suggested wording change from staff “permitted” lighting; approved by Boatsman and Goodman

⇒ Passed 6-0

It was moved by Goodman and seconded by Boatsman to:

Insert “serving residential uses” to Section K item 1

⇒ Passed 6-0

It was moved by Goodman second by Raisys to:

Change Section 2 b ii remove the word “or” after the phrase opaque barrier and replace it with “and”

Amendment was withdrawn

It was moved by Boatman seconded by Raisys to:

Amend Section 2 E remove the word “offsite” and replace it with “that occurs outside of property lines”

Amendment was withdrawn

It was moved by Boatsman and seconded by Goodman to:

Add to Section 2 item D an additional list item that reads “onto biodiversity areas, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, or wetlands”

⇒ Passed 6-0

It was moved by Raisys and seconded by Goodman to:

Exclude low voltage pathway and landscape lighting (1200 lumens or fewer) from section K.1.c

⇒ Passed 5-1

It was moved by Goodman and seconded by Murphy to:

Change Section 2b to read “four unshielded lighting fixtures not exceeding 450 lumens is allowed”

⇒ Passed 4-2

⇒ Main motion passed as amended.

The Planning Commission took a recess from 9:15pm to 9:25pm

Additional Planning Commission Recommendation to City Council: Due to noise and environmental concerns, the Planning Commission advises City Council to consider adopting a phased approach to limiting or banning the use of gas-powered outdoor maintenance tools and replacing them with electric outdoor maintenance tools.

Agenda Item #3: Working Session for ZTR21-004 Town Center Commercial Requirements

Sarah Bluvus and Jeff Thomas made a presentation and gave information on ZTR21-004 Town Center Commercial Requirements.

The Commission deliberated on the information and request from City Council.

A consensus was reached to come back with a draft including expanded street level uses.

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Director's Report

Alison Van Gorp, CPD Deputy Director, reported on the recruitment for the open seat on the Planning Commission.

Planned Absences

There were no planned absences.

Announcements & Communications

There were no announcements & communications.

Next Scheduled Meeting: 2/16/2022

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:16pm