

Mayor
John K. Handeland

City Manager
Glen Steckman

Deputy City Clerk
Jeremy Jacobson



Nome Planning Commission
Kenneth Hughes III, Chair
Mathew Michels
Sara Lizak
John Odden
Gregory Smith
Carol Piscoya
Colleen Deighton

**NOME PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 03, 2021 at 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 ▪ Nome, Alaska 99762 ▪ Phone (907) 443-6663 ▪ Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Colleen Deighton; Ken Hughes; Mathew Michels; Sara Lizak; John Odden;
Greg Smith; Carol Piscoya (arrived at 7:52)

Members Absent:

Also Present: Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Eileen Bechtol, City Planner (Microsoft Teams);
Clifton McHenry, Building Inspector; Jeremy Jacobson, Acting Deputy City Clerk

In the audience: Julia Lerner, Nome Nugget; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Mark Johnson, City
Council Member

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Smith and seconded by C. Odden to approve the agenda.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hughes; Michels; Lizak; Odden; Smith; Deighton

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 12, 2021 Nome Planning Commission Minutes,

A motion was made by C. Smith and seconded by C. Michels to approve the October 12th, 2021 minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: Lizak; Odden; Smith; Deighton; Hughes; Michels

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ACTIVITIES**A. Memo - Historic Preservation Plan 2021,**

- Chairman Hughes opened by opining his concerns with the current Nome Historic Preservation Plan.
City Planner Bechtol clarified for the commission the reason for the Historic Preservation Plan on the agenda that night. She noted the commission was to review Austin Ahmasuk's comments and make any amendments necessary before moving forward.
- C. Odden made inquiry to the grant parameters of the Historic Preservation Plan and if there were multiple grants currently being pursue.
- City Planner Bechtol stated there were no grants applied for yet with the Historic Preservation Plan. She detailed various options to highlight the King Island Tribe or "Dream Theater incident".
- C. Michels requested clarification, the Historic Preservation Plan is a living document, which City Planner Bechtol confirmed. He opined that the Planning Commission go through Mr. Ahmasuk's comments one by one, and incorporate what they can into the Historic Preservation Plan.
- C. Hughes opined the need for a work-session if Mr. Ahmasuk's comments were to be individually reviewed.
- C. Smith echoed Commissioner Michels suggestion to go over Mr. Ahmasuk's comments individually before proceeding.
- C. Hughes confirmed with the commission, a work session before the next meeting to review Mr. Ahmasuk's comments.

COMMUNICATIONS

No communications.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

1. Mark Johnson (City Council member) at the podium as a citizen, opined a need for the Planning Commission to review Austim Ahmasuk's comments before moving forward with the Historic Preservation Plan. He denoted various existing local archival which he opined encompassed a lot of Mr. Ahmasuk's comments. He alluded to the Front St. memo on the agenda, advocating a revise of Front St. zoning code. Proposing the City's website be equip with a zoning manual for economic development.

NEW BUSINESS**A. Memo - Setbacks on Front St. and Bering St.,**

- City Manager Steckman noted Front St. roadway proximity to buildings and sidewalks, advising Commission to assess Front St. setbacks and Bering street.
- C. Lizak pointed to City flood zone rating with relation to flood insurance.
- City Manager Steckman considered structures built to code and those not to code along Front street.

- C. Smith recollected zoning decisions made during their creation. Noting the detriments to building in the flood zone beyond economics.
- C. Lizak opined a practical approach to development within the Flood Zone.
- C. Michels acknowledged the various circumstances and suggested a work-session for January's meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Permit Summaries,
No comments.
- B. Planner's Report
No account given.
- C. Building Inspector's Report
 - Building Inspector McHenry noted recent licenses achieved and ongoing training. Various construction projects currently active around Nome. Noting right of way citations being sent out to citizens.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

1. C. Odden had no comments.
2. Smith had no comments.
3. Deighton had no comments regarding Planning Commission activities.
C. Hughes had no comments.
4. Michels declared interest in the coming work sessions and thanked everyone attending.
5. C. Lizak thanked Mark Johnson for his remarks at the meeting. Reflected on Austin Ahmasuk's comments and the public's input, sharing gratitude toward City staff and anticipation towards the upcoming work sessions.
6. C. Piscoya (52:30ish) liked the idea of working with the City on the Front St. zoning and thanked Austin Ahmasuk for his remarks.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

- A. The next meeting of the Nome Planning Commission is a work session to review Austin Ahmasuk's comments regarding the Historic Preservation Plan, scheduled December 7, 2021.
The next Regular meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for December 7, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Smith and seconded by C. Michels to adjourn.

Hearing no objections, the Nome Planning Commission adjourned at 7:40 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 7th day of December, 2021.

KENNETH HUGHES III
Chair

ATTEST:

JEREMY JACOBSON
Acting Deputy City Clerk