

Skagit County Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
Public Remarks
Election of Planning Commission Officers
Presentation/Work Session: Shoreline Master Program Update
January 26, 2021
6:10 PM – 7:43 PM

Please refer to transcript and video recording of Planning Commission meeting for in-depth information about these meeting minutes. Referenced documents, the full transcript, meeting agenda, and a video recording of this meeting can be viewed here:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/PlanningCommission/PCminutes.htm>

Summary of Meeting

Roll Call

Chair Raschko began the meeting with a roll call.

Tim Raschko, Chair: Present

Kathy Mitchell, Vice Chair: Present

Mark Knutzen: Present

Joseph Shea: Present

Mark Lundsten: Present

Amy Hughes: Present

Joe Woodmansee: Present

Tammy Candler: Present

Martha Rose: Present

All member of the Planning Commission were present.

Meeting Minutes (12/08/20)

Chair Raschko introduced the meeting minutes from the last meeting (12/08/20) for proposed changes and approval. Vice Chair Mitchell moved to approve the meeting minutes and Commissioner Rose seconded it. The Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Public Remarks

Written public comments were submitted for this meeting. Verbal public comment began at 06:16 PM and concluded at 06:32 PM.

Nomination and Election of Planning Commission Officers

Vice Chair Kathy Mitchell nominated Commissioner Tammy Candler for the position of Vice Chair. Vice Chair Kathy Mitchell nominated Chair Tim Rashcko for position of Chair. A vote was taken with unanimous approval of Commissioner Candler as Vice Chair. A vote was taken with unanimous approval of current Chair Tim Rashcko for this year's Chair.

Shoreline Master Program Update

Senior Planner Betsy Davidson and Mark Daniel from The Watershed Company began the Shoreline Master Program with a review of the meeting agenda for the evening's conversation. Ms. Davidson spoke about the timeline, the online open house and monthly public meetings and the important points that will be discussed for this update. Mr. Daniel from The Watershed Company joined the conversation by updating the Planning Commission on the legislative updates that have taken place at the state level and how they will impact this plan and the integration of the Critical Areas Ordinance. Mr. Joe Burcar from the Department of Ecology highlighted his role in providing recommendations for the plan. Ms. Davidson and Mr. Daniel took questions and comments from the Planning Commissioners.

Director's Update

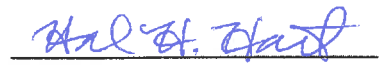
The director provided three major points of update. The Board of County Commissioners adopted the Countywide Planning Proposal amendments earlier today (01/26/21). Planning and Development Services is searching for a new full-time legal representative, in the interim, Will Honea will be standing in as the departments legal representative. Lastly, this Friday (01/29/2021), Long Range Planner Peter Gill will be virtually attending the agricultural summit put on by Washington State University to participate in research on agritourism for Skagit County.

Planning Commission Announcement/Comments

- Commissioner Mitchell inquired about how the comment box is to be used in virtual meetings. Members of the public used it as a way to line up for verbal public comment but also ended up using it to virtually submit written comments and ask questions. Mr. Gill explain that we will continue to disallow dialogue within the chat function to stay in compliance with the OPMA. Commissioner Mitchell asked if PDS could find a way to make the displayed video of Planning Commissioner members more visible.
- Commissioner Shea appreciated public comment and seconded Commissioner Mitchell's comment about ensuring that Planning Commission members are front and center for Commissioner Meetings.
- Commissioner Lundsten suggested an idea of forming a committee made of three Planning Commission members, one from each district, to expedite and consolidate the bylaw conversation into a simpler form. The goal would be to submit a draft made by this committee to the Planning Commission at large in order to streamline the bylaws discussion.
- Commissioner Woodmansee asked for an update surrounding the issue of folks within the county who are unable to drill wells at this time.
- Commissioner Knutzen commented about being ecstatic about Director Hart's comment on the value and importance of economic vitality in farming and agriculture.


Tim Raschko, Planning Commission Chair

2-14-21
Date


Hal Hart, Secretary

3-03-21
Date