

CITY OF PARKSVILLE
ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: January 21, 2010
Time: 8:00 AM
Place: PCTC, The Forum
Chairman: D. Luke

Members Present:

<u>X</u> _____	T. Knight	<u>X</u> _____	D. Luke
_____	C. A. O'Leary	<u>X</u> _____	J. Ormiston
<u>X</u> _____	L. Taylor	_____	R. Thompson
_____	C. Waters		

Others:

G. A. Jackson, Director of Community Planning
B. C. Russell, Manager of Current Planning
N. Gray, Planner
S. Harbottle

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 8:00 AM

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by T. Knight Seconded by J. Ormiston
That the minutes of the meeting of November 19, 2009 be approved. **CARRIED**

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3. Introduction of Council liaison appointment, Teresa Patterson

Councillor Patterson was introduced and welcomed by the members.

4. 2009 Year End Review

Gayle Jackson, Director of Community Planning advised the Commission members that presently there are no applications for review by the Commission. She advised that she was going to provide background on what a planning department does when there aren't many applications. Further she advised 2009 was a busy year. There were numerous initiatives presented by Planning. Listed below are some of the initiatives along with discussion comments:

- Affordable housing. There were several private sector proposals (Greig Road, Post & Lantern and the McVickers Street City owned property). Policy was created to induce/encourage the private sector to include a component of affordable housing in their development proposals.
- Community Garden. They are trying to relocate the current garden. The City will be setting up a Community Garden program that doesn't rely on municipal lands. The City is looking at several sites. The Parksville Civic and Technology Centre site has been designed but requires infrastructure. The Community Garden society will be looking for donations. Under this discussion urban food gardens was discussed noting that vacant lots could be utilized for this purpose.
- Sustainability. What was the new buzz word 2 years ago is now considered as part of basic requirements with new checklists included with all development applications.
- Downtown.
 - The City has received a tourism grant and a portion of the funds have gone to way-finding and highway signage. It was pointed out that there is now a coordinated theme for imaging within the City regarding signage and you can see this in the signs already up (i.e. Community Park, entrances to the City on Highway 19A).
 - Historic plaques posted throughout the City, have been a huge success. There are numerous sites with plaques and more inquiries to have more (i.e. the E & N Railroad).
 - Downtown sculpture – The City, along with the BIA is working to place a sculpture at the corner of McMillan and the Island Highway. There is discussion that the ODCA will also partner for this particular initiative.
 - Alphabet Walk – The Chamber of Commerce initiative in partnership with "BLT" (Building, Learning, Together) concept is being discussed again. This initiative is in connection with a program for benches and artist paint up participation.

- Transportation Plan. There was limited discussion on this topic as it is an Engineering Department initiative.
- Accessibility. It was requested that standards be mandated for new construction but it was determined that the Province (within the BC Building Code) does not yet address these issues so changes are not able to be made. However it was noted that the City has an accessibility checklist and an incentive program of up to \$1000.00 for residents to retrofit their home.
- Zoning and Development Bylaw. It was noted that there has been maintenance work done with regard to the home based business section of the zoning bylaw. It was pointed out that this was done not as a change but as providing clarity to the end user.
- Bylaw Compliance Issues. There was lengthy discussion regarding the varied requests of the Bylaw Compliance Officer. It was explained that people don't respond well to requests from the City for compliance with City bylaws. The Director of Community Planning will be bringing forward policy to deal with these matters to Council in the very near future.
- Regional District of Nanaimo. The Regional Growth Strategy, now called the Regional Sustainability Strategy is being re-done and staff is involved with Council in reviewing.
- Planning Applications:
 - Bernie Walsh – A rezoning application has been made. There are some issues with regard to access that Council has requested Staff look into prior to reviewing. This rezoning application is to permit residential use only for this proposal.
 - 451, 461 & 465 Hirst Avenue – The proposal for the Hirst properties for rezoning was defeated at Council.

5. Presentation – Strata Awareness Program

Nigel Gray, Planner presented his draft PowerPoint presentation on the proposed multifamily strata pilot outdoor water awareness program. It was well received by the membership.

6. OCP Status Update

Ms. Jackson advised the membership that Council has requested Staff prepare a survey of the community to determine if an update to the OCP is required. She further advised the membership of the new requirements regarding sustainability items such as Greenhouse Gas Emissions which the Province is mandating that municipalities consider. The members questioned whether they would be involved in the OCP update and was advised by Councillor Patterson that yes, they definitely would. Councillor

Patterson further advised she would like to see a survey done properly. Ms. Jackson advised that she would be preparing approximately 20 questions for the survey which she suggested could be done fairly quickly.

7. Other Items

J. Ormiston advised the members and staff that the waterfront walkway looks great.

8. Adjournment:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM.


Chair

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