

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: NOVEMBER 6TH, 2019

The Planning Commission of the City of Shawnee, County of Pottawatomie, State of Oklahoma, met in the Commission Chambers, at City Hall, 9th and Broadway, on Wednesday, November 6th, 2019, at 1:30 p.m., pursuant to notice duly posted as prescribed by law.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1:

Roll Call

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Present: Deem, Walker, Bergsten, Rowell, Kienzle, Melot

Absent: Matthews

Meeting was called to Order.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2:

Consideration of approval of the minutes from the regular meeting of the Planning Commission on October 2nd, 2019

Chairman Bergsten asked Commissioners for any comments, questions, or a vote. Commissioner Walker made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Commissioner Deem.

Motion passed:

AYE: Deem, Walker, Bergsten, Rowell, Melot

NAY:

ABSTAIN: Kienzle

AGENDA ITEM NO.3:

Citizens' Participation

Chairman Bergsten opened the public portion of the meeting and announced that this is an open time for discussion for those with questions on topics not on the Agenda and asked if anyone would like to come forward.

No one came forward and Chairman Bergsten closed the public portion of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4:

Consideration of approval of the election of a Vice-Chair of the Planning Commission

Chairman Bergsten asked for a nomination. Commissioner Walker made a motion to nominate Commission Kienzle as Vice-Chair; seconded by Commissioner Melot

Motion passed:

AYE: Deem, Walker, Bergsten, Rowell, Melot

NAY:

ABSTAIN: Kienzle

AGENDA ITEM NO.5:

Consideration of approval of the 2020 Schedule of Regular Meetings for the Planning Commission

Chairman Bergsten asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions and Chairman Bergsten asked for a motion. Commissioner Melot made a motion to approve the 2020 schedule; seconded by Commissioner Walker.

Motion passed:

AYE: Deem, Walker, Bergsten, Rowell, Kienzle, Melot

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

AGENDA ITEM NO.9:

Planning Director's Report

Planning Director Rebecca Blaine stated Item P14-19 has been deferred until next month on his request. Director Blaine stated that at the Quad-State Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the state has a medical marijuana dispensary for every twelve license holders. She stated the current fee schedule for commercial medical marijuana licenses does not cover the cost of staff time, and the City will be looking into increasing those fees soon.

Director Blaine described her experience with the Rose District tour in downtown Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. She stated they created a TIF district, which has resulted in impressive results for them.

Director Blaine stated her and City Commissioner Ed Bold went on the Bus Rapid Transit Tour in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She stated that has started a public dialogue in Shawnee on public transit.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10:

Commissioners Comments and/or New Business

Commissioner Deem asked Director Blaine if she learned anything from the Quad-State conference that she would like to bring to Shawnee. She stated bikability and quality of life were major themes in the conference. Chairman Bergsten stated that he was amazed when we went to Bentonville and saw all the new construction. Commissioner Melot noted the economic value of bikability. Commissioner Walker stated there would be up to three hundred bikers in downtown Shawnee.

Commissioner Deem asked what the timeline is on the bikelanes on Broadway. Director Blaine stated that project would be going up for RFQ soon. Commissioner Melot stated that something to remember about this project is that it is a beautification project to calm traffic and create a beautify connector freeway to downtown. She summarized the process of public engagement Blue Zones conducted. She stated on-street parking and bike lanes can co-exist. She stated there will also be lighting added to the area. Chairman Bergsten stated the only concern he has heard is regarding parking. Commissioner Melot stated she hears a wide range of comments.

Chairman Bergsten asked Director Blaine if she has noticed a slowdown of dispensary startups. She stated the Planning Department still receives a lot of application. She asked Assistant City Planner Joseph Barker to confirm if there are seventeen dispensaries. Mr. Barker stated it is around that number. Director Blaine stated they have received nuisance complaints regarding odor control.

Director Blaine stated Shawnee has an unusual number of dispensaries. She stated the City requires nothing more than what the State does. Chairman Bergsten expressed concern about what the number of dispensaries says about Shawnee. Director Blaine stated she believes the number of dispensaries will eventually go down. Commissioner Melot stated the entire state of Arkansas only has thirty-three dispensaries. She stated they limit the number of licenses granted. Commissioner Walker stated the market will self-regulate. Commissioner Kienzle expressed concern at the amount of demand for marijuana. Commissioner Rowell asked Director Blaine to clarify that there is one dispensary for every twelve patient licenses. Director Blaine stated there are e-doctors that approve patients for medical marijuana licenses. Commissioner Melot stated the review time for patient licenses is very short. Commissioner Rowell asked if the City has any responsibility for monitoring growing establishments. Director Blaine stated the City as the building code and fire code. She stated the new state regulations clarified what counts as a school.

Commissioner Deem asked Director Blaine for an update with Shawnee Saw Mill. Director Blaine stated progress has stopped on bringing the business up to conformity, and that she will consult leadership on how to move forward.

Commissioner Deem asked what the best way to address tree preservation. She noted that OG&E leaves trees in poor shape. Commissioner Kienzle stated she has complained about this before. Director Blaine stated the City does not have an ordinance that address that to her knowledge. She stated that could be a conversation to start with OG&E. Commissioner Deem asked who could have that conversation. Director Blaine stated it could be the Planning Commission or the City Manager. Commissioner Kienzle stated the trees that look the worst look that because they are planted in the wrong place. Commissioner Walker stated a light pole has been down on Broadway for six months.

Commissioner Deem asked Director Blaine what is happening with Phase II of the Market Place. Director Blaine stated nothing has happened.

Commissioner Melot stated the City Manager is hosting a complete streets training session on November 18th, 2019. She stated the Oklahoma Department of Transportation is pursuing a complete streets policy as a state. She stated that on November 19th, 2019, a form-based code training session will be hosted as well.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11:

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned.



Chairman/Vice-Chairman

Joseph Barker
Planning Commission Secretary