

KITTITAS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 11th, 6:30 PM

Commissioners Auditorium
Kittitas County Courthouse

- I. **Chairman Grant Clark** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Those present: Leslie Walker, Bob Hickey, Gary Starkovich, Brandon Huber, Rob Fraser, Margaret Sullivan and Grant Clark

Those absent: None

Also present: Planning Official- Doc Hansen, Staff Planner- Jeff Watson , CDS permit technician/clerk- Rose Shriner and approximately four members of the public.

- I. **Correspondence:** None.

II. **Minutes**

- a. Chairman Clark asked if anybody had questions about the minutes. No one responded. Board member Leslie Walker made a motion to approve the minutes from 8-20-13 and 9-24-13. Board member Brandon Huber seconded the motion. **The motion passed with a 6-0 vote.**

III. **Elect New Officers:**

- a. Chairman Clark stated in the first meeting of the year that the election of new officers is in the planning commission by laws. Brief discussion was made about nominations.
- i. Rob Fraser made a motion to nominate Grant Clark as Chairman of the Planning Commission. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote.
- ii. Chairman Grant Clark made a motion to nominate Rob Fraser as Vice Chairman. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

IV. **Old Business**

- a. **Planning Official**, Doc Hansen, addressed the planning commission and personally thanked the planning commission and indicated a job well done. He encouraged the planning commission not to get frustrated because these changes but pat themselves on the back. Mr. Hansen updated them on the timelines on upcoming public hearings and issues with the Growth Management Act Compliance and Water. Discussion was made between staff and planning commission members.

V. New Business

A. Open Space Current Use Applications

a. OC-12-00001 Tucker

Staff planner, Jeff Watson, presented OC-12-00001 Tucker to the Planning Commission using the criteria provided by the State and Resolution 94-25 adopted by the County. Staff recommended the approval of OC-12-00001.

Chair opened the Hearing for Applicant Presentation

Thomas Tucker III, Seabeck, WA, gave background of the property and explained why his property should be considered for Open Space based on the Water criteria. Board Member, Rob Fraser, asked the applicant playing the devil's advocate and said there is not much else to happen to the property and development and asked what Mr. Tucker was protecting it from. Mr. Tucker responded by stating that the area is like a wildlife corridor and he wouldn't want to see that changed.

Chairman Clark closed the Applicants Presentation and opened the Hearing for Public Testimony.

There was no public testimony.

Chairman Clark closed the Public Testimony and opened the Hearing for Planning Commission deliberation

Board Members, Gary Starkovich, Bob Hickey and Rob agree that it met the qualifications. Chairman Clark stated that it meets the comfortable that it meets the criteria.

Chairman Clark motioned to forward the Tucker Open Space Application OC-12-00001 to the Board of County Commissioners for recommendation of approval. Board Member Gary Starkovich seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 6-1 vote.

b. OC-13-00001 Resort Creek

Staff planner, Jeff Watson, presented OC-13-00001 Resort Creek to the Planning Commission using the criteria provided by the State and Resolution 94-25 adopted by the County. Staff recommended the approval of OC-13-00001. Discussion was made regarding the specificity of 94-25 and the criteria for open space applications. Board Member Leslie Walker stated that the soil criteria of 94-25 was not complete for Resort Creek and did not recommend approval.

Chair opened the Hearing for Applicant Presentation

Jill Schaeffer, Forterra, stated that both parcels are part of the I-90 wildlife corridor project and have spent \$14 million in support of freeway expansion. They have secured 3,000 acres as part of support for the initiative and Resort Creek is owned by a private property owner. Mrs. Schaeffer stated that under Section 6 of Federal Fish and Wildlife required to prepare for forest manage and plans and usually address soil conservation.

Chairman Clark closed the Applicants Presentation and opened the Hearing for Public Testimony.

There was no public testimony.

Chairman Clark closed the Public Testimony and opened the Hearing for Planning Commission deliberation

Bob Hickey motioned to forward the Resort Creek Open Space Application OC-13-00001 to the Board of County Commissioners for recommendation of approval. Board Member Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 6-1 vote.

c. OC-13-00002 Gold Creek

Staff planner, Jeff Watson, presented OC-13-00002 Gold Creek to the Planning Commission using the criteria provided by the State and Resolution 94-25 adopted by the County. Staff recommended the approval of OC-13-00002.

Chair opened the Hearing for Applicant Presentation

Jill Schaeffer, Forterra, stated that this is purchased under the same processes. Department of Transportation is partner and needed mitigation property and it was transferred to the Forest Service but we are prohibited because federal funds of Gold Creek. Mrs. Schaeffer stated that Gold Creek is a critically important habitat for bull trout which is an endangered species; and they [Forterra] have done significant work in the Gold Creek area.

Chairman Clark closed the Applicants Presentation and opened the Hearing for Public Testimony.

There was no public testimony.

Chairman Clark closed the Public Testimony and opened the Hearing for Planning Commission deliberation

Grant Clark motioned to forward the Gold Creek Open Space Application OC-13-00002 to the Board of County Commissioners for recommendation of approval. Board Member Rob Fraser seconded the motion and the motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

B. Shoreline Master Program Update

Planning Official, Doc Hansen, updated the planning commission on the Shoreline Master Program progress and proposed timeline. Mr. Hansen anticipated that this update be approved sometime at the end of the year. Mr. Hansen, summarized each chapter of the proposed Shoreline Master Program Draft.

C. Critical Areas Ordinance Update

Planning Official, Doc Hansen, stated that Critical Areas ordinance is our ordinance that is going to cover the entire county. Mr. Hansen stated that he is anticipating that it will be coming into the fall, more

towards Christmas and the first of the year so that the Board will be hearing it about next time this year. The channel migration zones will be recognized in the Critical Areas Ordinance, and will coordinate that with the flood control and all these things will be combined. Shorelines and Critical Areas and Ordinance are not the same thing but there will be some overlap. They are looking at the Citizen Advisory Committee done in the summer, and best available science will be done in the summer and beginning of the adoption will be towards the end of the year. Discussion was made about Citizen Advisory Committee.

VI. Mr. Hansen briefly discussed the next proposed meeting will be February 25th at 6:30 PM at the Teanaway Hall at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.