

**CITY OF VERGENNES
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2014**

Members Present: Shannon Haggett-Chair, Mike Winslow-Vice Chair, Jason Farrell, Morgan Kittredge, Alexandria McGuire, Rebecca Rey

Members Absent: Tim Cook, Stacy Raphael

Also Present: Mel Hawley, Zoning Administrator

Shannon Haggett called the special meeting to order at 8:08 p.m. immediately at the conclusion of the public hearing.

The minutes to the regular meeting of May 19, 2014 were reviewed. Mike moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Alex with all voting in favor.

The group began a final review of the draft municipal development plan with consideration of the testimony given at the public hearing and made the following changes:

Page 12, Policy 12, changed policy to read, "To provide for the wise and efficient use of Vergennes' natural resources and to maintain and improve the quality of air, water, wildlife, and land resources, including the restoration or redevelopment of abandoned developed lands."

Page 12, Policy 13, changed policy to read, "To protect, maintain, enhance, and where compatible, increase indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities."

Page 23, re-inserted and revised policy 2 to read, "Support a committee to promote the economic development of Vergennes. Develop a plan to attract new businesses and support existing businesses that are compatible with the character of Vergennes."

Page 42, Policy 7, changed policy to read, "Conduct a study of the Police and Fire Departments to identify existing and projected needs for inclusion in a capital budget and program."

Jason moved to remove "Provide a playground or play structure in the downtown area." From Policy # 30 on page 45. The motion received no second and the group continued its review.

Page 45, Policy 30, changed policy to read, "Maintain, enhance, and expand existing public parks and recreational facilities and activities. Inventory current status, with community input, and create a 10-year plan for improvements and maintenance."

Page 45, broke out the following as a separate policy (#31), "Provide a playground or play

structure in the downtown area.”

Page 46, inserted new policy (#40), “Explore opportunities to collaborate with Northlands Job Corps Center over the short and long term.”

Page 52, changed “infrequently flooding basin” to “occasionally flooding basin”.

In regard to Mayor Bill Benton’s recommendations not already listed, Shannon noted that for page 17, there was not any migration data available from the 2010 Census that captured the present data.

For the note on an expanded Public Works entry, everyone agreed we could include additional information if it were readily available and that this entry may be suffering in comparison to the Fire Department entry which may have too much information related to equipment, etc.

To cover updated photographs Shannon stated that he would contact Mayor Benton to ask if the Mayor could provide updated photographs which could be included.

Mel stated that Danelle Birong had emailed him with a list of typographical errors that she had found in the draft plan. He said would share the information with the Planning Commission for inclusion in the changes.

Mike moved that Shannon incorporate all discussed changes to the municipal development plan and to authorize delivery of the updated plan to the City Council. The motion was seconded by Rebecca with all voting in favor.

Shannon noted that this was the last meeting for Alex as she would be on vacation at the time of the July meeting and was not seeking reappointment at the end of her term being August 1, 2014. He asked that the minutes reflect appreciation to Alex for her years of service to the community as member of the Planning Commission and Development Review Board, and as former Chair of the Planning Commission. Her significant contributions will be greatly missed!

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mel Hawley, Clerk