

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION



Robb Parish
Commission Chair
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Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Mike Ray
Staff Liaison
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<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/457/Planning-Zoning-Commission>

Wednesday
March 9, 2022

7:00 PM

Council Chambers
206 E Third Street

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robb Parish, Chair; Rich Beebe, Drew Davis, Joel Hamilton, Nels Reese, Victoria Seever
MEMBERS ABSENT: Scott Gropp, Dennis Wilson
OTHERS: Hailey Lewis
STAFF: Jennifer Fleischman, Mike Ray

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of January 26, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Davis moved for approval of the minutes as corrected, seconded by Hamilton. Vote by Acclamation; Ayes: Unanimous (6). Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment

Time limit 15 minutes. Members of the Public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the Agenda nor currently pending before the Planning and Zoning Commission. Please state your name and resident city for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None.

3. FY2023 Commission Budget (ACTION ITEM)

The FY2023 budget process is underway and the Commission will need to submit their request.

Ray presented the draft budget for the Commission's consideration. There was discussion about soliciting more presenters to speak on relevant topics and the possibility of subscribing to a journal for continuing education. Staff will research and provide a recommendation on some options.

Hamilton moved to approve the FY2023 budget as written, seconded by Beebe. Vote by Acclamation; Ayes: Unanimous (6). Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

4. Self-Storage Facilities in Residential Zones (ACTION ITEM)

Traditionally, self-storage facilities have only been permitted within certain commercial zoning districts. In reviewing potential locations for self-storage facilities over the years, staff has discussed the concept of permitting self-storage facilities in residential zones with some development standards. Self-storage facilities serve the need of providing additional storage space for nearby neighborhoods and tend to generate minimal nuisances.

Ray began the discussion regarding a potential code amendment, as described above, and encouraged the Commission to consider possibly expanding the allowances for self-storage facilities to different zones. There was conversation about the aesthetic of storage units and how that would affect the community feel in

residential areas. The Commissioners would be interested in seeing what other cities have done with regulations surrounding storage facilities.

It was acknowledged that there is a great need for storage units and lack of facilities available in Moscow. The City has received numerous inquiries regarding plots of land for storage units over the years. The discussion continued about the increased density of housing developments. The newly built Barley Flats District condominiums each have a small storage unit in the parking garage. There was some discussion about allowing them in R-4 areas, where apartments and denser developments are more common. 2-story storage facilities might be more aesthetically pleasing, instead of sprawling single level units. Increasing landscaping buffers to hide residential area storage facilities was considered.

There was discussion about how developers use self-storage facilities as a placeholder for empty lots, such as the units that were demolished on S Main Street before Identity was built. Visibility for the safety of storage unit users was brought up when considering design standards. There was discussion about potential traffic increase impact in R-4 areas as opposed to R-1 areas. The Commission decided that they would like to pursue a potential code amendment for self-storage facilities.

REPORTS

1. Transportation Commission meeting report.

The Transportation Commission meeting scheduled for March 10th was cancelled and the next meeting is the second Thursday in April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The draft Climate Action Plan was released and Parish encouraged the Commissioners to read and review it. April 25th is the City Council workshop where they will discuss public comments and a virtual Open House was March 9th.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Next Planning & Zoning Commission regular meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2022.

The annual Planning & Zoning Commission report to City Council is March 21, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM



Robb Parish, Chair