

Minutes of Meeting
Community Development Update
May 11, 2015
1:31 p.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners met to discuss Community Development updates. Chairman Stewart, Commissioner Green and Commissioner Eberlein were present. Also in attendance were Community Development Director David Callahan and Deputy Clerk Sandi Gilbertson.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

B. Changes to the Agenda: None.

C. Old Business: There was no old business.

D. New Business:

1. Discussion of Priorities for the Comprehensive Plan Update and the Interim Code

Chairman Stewart said he had met with Janet Robnett, Patti Shea, and Rand Wichman regarding the update to the comp plan and the interim land use code and their concerns about which process was being focused on. Chairman Stewart told them that the interim code was in the spotlight right now and getting finalized with a completion date of August or so with the comprehensive plan to follow. Commissioner Green said there are three tasks in the process now - the interim code, the shoreline issues, and updating the comprehensive plan. Commissioner Green said that the interim code has widespread support because it is a technical fix to make the current process better for everyone. He added that when the policy is added of the shoreline issue, the process becomes more complicated. Commissioner Green said he would like to see the interim code completed first adding that the technical fix will be embraced by the public but the shoreline discussion will be much more spirited. He would recommend keeping the process going on the shoreline discussion as well as the update of the comp plan but if all three are meshed together, it will be hard to get anything done. Chairman Stewart agreed to get the interim code done first but with the shorelines issue included. Commissioner Eberlein said he has been doing outreach regarding the shoreline and he would like to get a workable plan that allows the shoreline issue to be included in the interim code. If at the end of three or four weeks a workable plan is not possible, he would agree to not include the shoreline issue in the interim code. Commissioner Green said whatever version is legally noticed is the version that is used at the public hearings.

Chairman Stewart expressed his concerns regarding remarks he heard on how contentious the last two Planning Commission workshops have been. Mr. Callahan said the last workshop was held y like a workshop should be held. He added that at the workshop prior, the discussion was for a work plan to update the comprehensive plan. Mr. Callahan said the public starting asking questions on a variety of issues at the beginning of the workshop instead of waiting until the public comment section. He explained the workshop became tense when one person took personal affront with two of the Commissioners and questioned their ethics. Chairman Stewart asked what the role of the Planning Commission was and what they are working on currently. Mr. Callahan explained they are working on the comp plan work schedule. Commissioner Green described the role of the Planning Commission and how they make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Green brought up the issue of Hauser ACI and all the Commissioners agreed to get it back before the Board.

2. Planning and Zoning Commission – Open Positions

Mr. Callahan explained that Jay Fromkin has resigned from the Planning Commission for personal reasons. Traditionally, the Board would advertise, take applications, interview, and appoint within 90 days but he would prefer a much shorter time. Commissioner Green said the ad could go in the paper this week and Community Development could e-mail blast the information on the Planning Commission vacancy. The Board agreed to take applications until June 1.

E. Public Comment:

Janet Robnett asked to allow enough time on the technical fix (interim code) for the public to be able to comment on the final draft. She asked that the Planning Commission be able to concentrate on the technical fix and added that the last comp plan took much too long and that was a reason that some people became disconnected. Patti Shea agreed with the plan to only work on the technical fix first and she asked that Community Development be given the resources needed for the update of the comp plan. David Levine suggested that when looking at a Planning Commission candidate to consider comments given at a Planning Commission workshop to look at someone in the outlying area of the County to make sure there is representation in those areas. Carla Woempner also spoke agreeing that the Planning Commission workshop went well but said the personal attacks on the Commissioners were unnecessary.

There being no further discussion of agenda items or public comment, Chairman Stewart adjourned the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

David Stewart, Chairman