



City of Irrigon Planning Commission Minutes
January 6, 2009 at 7 PM
Irrigon City Hall
500 NE Main Avenue

1. Call to Order

Chair Amy Sandy called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. Roll Call

All Planning Commission members were present: Amy Sandy, Tanna Dole, David Wood, and Dale Beamer.

Staff present: City Manager Gerald Breazeale and Utility Billing Clerk Penny Moore.

Members of the public: Gloria Wood, Burrel Cooley and John Sebastian.

3. Approval of the December 2, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Tanna Dole made the motion to approve the minutes. David Wood seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Irrigon Recreation Lands District

City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the Irrigon Park District has an existing storage shed near the existing caretaker's home that has no description of what is allowed for the recreation zone. A recreation zone was established for all of the Corps property that's north of the city limits along the Columbia River with the intent of all that area being developed for recreation use and the Corps was notified that the City of Irrigon had that plan. The Irrigon Park District leases the land from the Army Corps of Engineers. Part of the grant proposal was the state paying for consultants to help the city with rewriting the city development code.

Language for the recreation zone was to be developed later. The state just reserved the recreation zone. The zone was not defined or what would be permitted in the zone. City Manager Gerald Breazeale

contacted a representative from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development and he suggested that the city amend the code to include language in the recreation zone that allows a provision for accessory uses. An amendment would not be able to be passed before the city council meeting in February; this would allow advertising a public hearing in the newspaper.

The planning commission will make a recommendation to the city council to adopt the language by ordinance to permit public use, including the required setbacks and height. Commissioner David Wood asked Burrel Cooley that was representing the Park District if the recommended restrictions of height and setbacks are acceptable. Mr. Cooley stated that the restrictions were acceptable.

Commissioner David Wood made the motion to recommend to the Irrigon city council to approve the language of Chapter 2.6 - Recreation Lands District concluded of the standard zoning for setbacks. Commissioner Dale Beamer seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Planning Commission Training Manual – Chapter 3, pages 21-27

Chair Amy Sandy asked if all of the commissioners had read chapter 3, pages 21-27 and was ready to review.

Chair Amy Sandy started with reviewing the roles and responsibilities that include the city staff, the governing body (city council) and the commissioners with the sole responsibility of the Chair to conduct the meetings.

Commissioner David Wood asked how many commissioners need to be present for a quorum. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that with four commissioners, three need to be present for a quorum.

Chair Amy Sandy stated that the commission makes recommendation to the city council. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the commission can approve and pass motions; however, the commission is not authorized to spend money. The city council would decide if any money would be spent under the issues. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that if the public did not agree with the decision that the commission made, the city council could overturn the planning commissioner's approvals. Manager Breazeale stated there are areas in which the planning commission can make final rulings on any land use law.

Chair Amy Sandy stated the importance of the planning commission is to represents the public and that a good rapport be established along with keeping things in perspective for the community, and not become lost in the daily decisions and detail of life. Manager Breazeale stated that the commission, through public hearings, is a good way of communicating with the public.

Chair Amy Sandy announced the next review will be Chapter 6 of the training manual.

6. Additional Discussion

Commissioner Tanna Dole inquired about the possibility of receiving the planning commission monthly packet in PDF form and e-mailed each month. City Manager Gerald Breazeale and Utility Billing Clerk Penny Moore agreed, stating that would be an excellent way of delivering the packets, instead of mailing.

City Manager Gerald Breazeale asked the commissioners if they received an e-mail relating to the TAC meeting January 15, 2009. The consultation team will be in Irrigon for two days, on the 14th of January they will be working with the Technical Advisory Committee about specific design issues and on the 15th of January the consultations will be interviewing property and business owners to get their thoughts on what's needed in this area.

Adjournment: Chair Amy Sandy announced that the meeting be adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: City of Irrigon Planning Commission – February 3, 2009
All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

Tanna Dole, Planning Commission Secretary