



SKAMANIA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 6:15 PM

REMOTE PARTICIPATION BY ZOOM MEETING TELEPHONE AND VIDEO CONFERENCE

1. CALL TO ORDER

Cyndi Soliz called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cyndi Soliz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Planning Commissioners Present: Ken Bajema, Anita Gahimer Crow, John Prescott, Cyndi Soliz

Staff Present: Mike Beck, Andrew Lembrick, Alan Peters

4. AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Approval of minutes from the April 6, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting.
John Prescott moved to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting. Anita Gahimer Crow seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

- b. PUBLIC HEARING on proposed text amendments to Title 21 (Zoning) adopting regulations for alternative energy facilities, including small-scale accessory wind and solar facilities.

Cyndi Soliz introduced the item and opened the public hearing. Mary Repar provided comments on the proposal. Cyndi Soliz then read an emailed comment letter from Nathan Baker, Friends of the Columbia Gorge. The public hearing was closed.

The Planning Commissioners discussed the comments. John Prescott stated that the proposal adequately addressed Ms. Repar's concerns, and that the proposal was intended to allow for other alternative energy facilities besides solar and wind facilities. Anita Gahimer Crow agreed. She suggested amendments to Section E, Paragraph 3 to include a section heading. Ken Bajema felt the proposal was adequate.

Ken Bajema moved to approve the proposal with the change recommended by Anita Gahimer Crow. Anita Gahimer Crow seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.



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c. Workshop to discuss recreational facilities.

Mike Beck presented updated draft definitions for six types of recreational facilities. He then provided a summary of development standards for recreational facilities that were drafted by staff.

The Planning Commission members each provided feedback on the draft standards. Ken Bajema suggested some clarification was needed on the lighting standard, and felt that a 10 PM event limit might be too early. John Prescott agreed that the lighting standard and event time restriction needed some work. He thought the draft should clarify if the acreage requirements applied to the facility or parcel size. Anita Gahimer Crow addressed the lighting and sanitation requirements. She explained that bathrooms were important, but more clarity was needed on the exemption for low intensity uses. She stated that there may be circumstances where more than 50% of a campground could consist of cabins or yurts.

Staff agreed to look into all of these issues raised by the Planning Commission and revise the draft as appropriate. Staff also will begin looking at revising the land use matrix and come up with a proposal for review at the next meeting.

5. PLANNING COMMISSION BUSINESS

a. Discuss adding public comment for non-public comment items to the Planning Commission agenda.

The Planning Commission discussed their role and the various opportunities for public comment that are available, including public comment before the Board of County Commissioners and the opportunity to provide written comment at any time to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission agreed to keep the agenda as-is but to continue to accept written comments as well as provide public hearings on specific items.

6. ADJOURN

Cyndi Soliz adjourned the meeting at 7:24 PM.