
**PLUMAS COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Minutes of the Meeting of March 7, 2013

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mark Dotta, *Commissioner* (District 1) **Larry Williams**, *Vice-Chair* (District 4)
Betsy Schramel, *Commissioner* (District 2) **John Olofson**, *Chair* (District 5)
Richard Rydell, *Commissioner* (District 3)



I. CALL TO ORDER

The Plumas County Planning Commission (*the Commission*) convenes in a meeting on March 7, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in the Planning and Building Services Conference Room, Quincy, CA; Chair Olofson, presiding.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Olofson, Williams, Dotta

Commissioners Absent: Schramel, Rydell

Also in attendance (Supervisors, Consultants, County Staff):
Lori Simpson, *Supervisor, District 4*
Rebecca Herrin, *Senior Planner*

IV. CONSENT ITEMS:

A. ITEMS TO BE CONTINUED OR WITHDRAWN FROM THE AGENDA –*none*
M/S/C to approve agenda: Williams/Dotta/3-0

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –*none*

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS / COMMENTS

Commissioner Dotta reports that he attended a meeting given by the Indian Valley Citizens for Private Property Rights and a presentation by Kaye Backer (sp). He was somewhat encouraged; thinks that people are not for throwing out the General Plan. He states that they told him they were forming a group to review the plan and develop proposed changes. Dotta feels that it is a good plan, but tweaks are welcomed.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Larry Douglas, 25 Commercial Street, Portola: Speaks about Sonoma County and its successful economic development efforts. Business costs are 7% lower.

Also, Pueblo County where the unemployment rate from 1984 to 1986 was 24%. The economic development efforts there were so successful that they were able to build a \$55 million courthouse and spend \$42 million on improving the fairgrounds.

He feels that Plumas County (and Portola) has all the ingredients to attract business.

Commissioner Williams wishes to add a future agenda item: To invite the Feather River College president, Dr. Kevin Trutna, to discuss economic development and the college's vocational education program.

Mark Mihevc, Graeagle: Questions Commissioner Dotta if he means that he is open to revisions to the general plan at this time. Commissioner Dotta responds that there will be more meetings and changes can be introduced. The plan is not set in stone; it is a draft.

Claudia Vickers, Bucks Lake Road, Quincy: She feels that some changes in the wording of the plan might be possible. If there is a problem with the use of the word "sustainability", might use "maintenance" or "maintaining".

The Plumas County museum should be the historical arbiter of historic buildings and sites. The Director of the Museum is familiar with the issues. She feels that Design Review should be separate from historical review. Goes on to discuss signage issues in downtown Quincy between Design Review and the Chamber of Commerce. She is familiar with the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District and discusses whether Plumas County needs to look at open space districts.

She is concerned about Agenda 21 and doesn't like to think that we are losing our freedoms.

Russell Peter, Taylorsville: Speaks about suggestions for revisions to the general plan. Do other Tahoe comments trump our comments?

Commissioner Olofson responds that the consultant, Design Workshop has offices in South Lake Tahoe and Minden Nevada. The proposals for consultants were vetted with the Board of Supervisors and consultants were interviewed in a joint meeting prior to Design Workshop being chosen.

Commissioner Dotta adds that the Planning Commission looked at many other general plans from other areas.

Joyce Wangsgard to Russell: are you concerned that people from outside the County have too much influence?

Chair Olofson warns Ms. Wangsgard to speak to the Commission, not other audience members.

Mr. Peter responds that he has concerns about influence coming into the County from other areas.

Debbie Thompson, Graeagle: Is this the same consulting firm that wrote Sierra County's General Plan? Is it possible to get a copy of the Draft General Plan?

Herrin responds that no, it is not the same consultants. She tells Ms. Thompson she will make sure she gets a copy of the plan.

VII. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

Powerpoint and presentation on "Redesigning the Zoning Ordinance", based on a program of UC Davis Extension, Land Use and Natural Resources, given June 7, 2012 – *Rebecca Herrin*

Since the recording secretary also gave the presentation, there are no detailed minutes on comments and discussion during the powerpoint, but a copy of the powerpoint is attached to provide information on the topic.

VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS - None

IX. CORRESPONDENCE - None

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Leah Wills and Randy Wilson-"missing water" presentation
- Brown Act presentation by County Counsel
- Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA)
- Discussion of public lands being used for development of solar/wind facilities
- Update on the Genesee-Beckwourth Road (FHA) project
- Discussion of methods of developing tourism/ecotourism/economic enhancement activities to Plumas County
- Feather River College President, Dr. Kevin Trutna, to discuss economic development and Vocational Education Program at the college

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Olofson calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting of March 7, 2013.

M/S/C: Williams/Dotta /3-0 to adjourn the meeting
Meeting is adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting is set for March 21, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., in the Planning & Building Services Conference Room.

John Olofson, Chair
Plumas County Planning Commission



Rebecca Herrin, Senior Planner
Plumas County Planning Department