

Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
December 20, 2011

Chairman Leraas opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Roll was taken and a quorum was established.

Present: William Leraas, Bob Parnell, Marc Myrsell

Absent: Jean Maddox and Ben Bridges

Staff Present: Randy Lewis, City Administrator

Minutes of November 15, 2011. Chairman Leraas stated that in the last meeting's minutes the section that reads 200 years should be 20 years (typo error). Also, Bob Parnell had questions regarding the typed sequence of headings in regards to the discussion of the Comp Plan. Those headings will be researched and changed, if necessary, to correlate with the headings in the Comp Plan.

Chairman Leraas made a motion to correct the minutes, seconded by Bob Parnell. Motion carried.

Old Business: Review of Comp Plan. Randy Lewis passed out two handouts to committee members.

Chairman Leraas asked Randy Lewis where we stood in discussion of the Comp Plan. Randy explained he would like everyone to read through the draft copies he passed out so we can put these sections aside. He also asked for suggestions. In the second handout that was distributed to committee members, Randy stated it has the exact language from the current Comp Plan. He asked committee members to review.

In regard to Chapter 3 – Overall Goals and Objections, Randy stated there has been very little feedback from the public.

In addition, Randy stated that Chapter 4 – Land Use Element, is the heart of the Comp Plan. He stated he was considering publishing a questionnaire on the City's website asking for feedback including suggestions. To date, there has not been much input from the public. Chairman Leraas suggested sending a questionnaire to the public members that were present at the first meeting. Marc Myrsell suggested that Randy could write a brief article and publish it in the South Beach Bulletin Newspaper to encourage the public to respond with their feedback. Randy said he will put an article in the newspaper the Thursday before the meeting explaining our progress and to encourage the public to attend the meetings.

Randy Lewis stated that there is not a set timeframe to finish revising the Comp Plan. In addition, Chapter 4 – Land Use Element will be the "meat and potatoes" of the Plan. Bob Parnell stated we need to be careful in changing the zones.

Additional Old Business. None

New Business. Chairman Leraas introduced the new board member, Marc Myrsell. Marc also runs a land survey service in addition to owning and operating the aquarium.

Chairman Leraas stated a new vice chairperson needs to be elected. This item was tabled until the next meeting when more members are present.

A guest from the audience, Mike Cornman (with Westport Seafood Exchange), stated that the City is in a "unique" zone and would like to involve himself in the discussions concerning the future of the City of Westport.

Correspondence. None

Adjournment. Chairman Leraas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marc Myrsell, motion carried. Meeting ended at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nissar
Planning Secretary