

October 8, 2009

MEMBERS: Matt Brown, Paulina Cockrum, Dan Jesse, Sally Mannex, Sarah Nebeker, Todd Schultz and Caroline Ward.

STAFF: Sabrina Pearson

GUESTS: Tom Thies and Nancy McCarthy

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Gearhart Planning Commission for Thursday, October 8, 2009 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Todd Schultz.

On **MOTION** by Cockrum, 2nd by Jesse, the minutes of August 13, 2009 were approved as mailed. Motion unanimously approved.

The financial report as of August 27, 2009 was as follows:

Planning Commission secretary expenses:	
Year to date	327.19
Balance	4035.81
Planning Commission expenses:	
Year to date	-0-
Balance	2200.00

On **MOTION** by Jesse, 2nd by Brown, the financial report of August 27, 2009 was approved. Motion unanimously approved.

Schultz noted correspondence regarding the 13th Annual Oregon Land Use Law seminar was scheduled for December 10-11, 2009.

He passed around the League of Oregon Cities Fall workshop schedule. Jesse expressed an interest in Emergency Management and Preparedness workshop scheduled for December 14th in Tualatin. City County Insurance Services members may participate at a reduced rate. The secretary will find out if the city is a member of CIS.

Todd Schultz opened the public hearing to consider Application #09-001ZTA, amendments to the Gearhart Zoning Ordinance. He read the hearing requirements into the record. He asked for declaration of any bias or conflict of interest from the commissioners; none was declared. He also asked if any audience member had a challenge to the commission hearing the matter or if there was a belief that any commissioner had a personal bias or conflict of interest; none was declared.

Pearson read portions of the staff report into the record; description of request, criteria, findings of fact.

Jesse asked for a clarification on page 8, Section 6.195 as to what existing text was and what the change was to be. Pearson explained the *italic font* is to be deleted.

Schultz asked Pearson to read any correspondence. Correspondence was read into the record from Mike Honan, 776 E Street – he felt there was no need to change the existing tree ordinance and requiring an arborist would be an unnecessary expense for homeowners.

Tom Thies, P O Box 2831, 292 Woodland – stated landscaping at the intersection of Highway 101 and Pacific Way has grown to be a hazard at the intersections, you cannot see traffic coming from the north especially if you are in a small car. The highway landscaping requirements should take into consideration visibility.

Pearson explained Section 6.060 *clear vision area*, she suggested an addition could be made to #2 to read **Landscaping plans shall comply with the standards of Section 6.060 clear vision area.**

Cockrum suggested Thies contact the property owner and ask they cut the plantings as a safety measure. Jesse noted Bob Knutson is the property owner. Pearson noted plantings within the clear vision area are an enforcement issue and either the commission or city administrator should be contacted.

There was no testimony in opposition to the amendments.

There were no staff comments other than changes to reflect clear vision area.

On **MOTION** by Nebeker, 2nd by Mannex, the public hearing was closed at 7:35 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

Jesse expressed concerns about the tree cutting ordinance and lack of enforcement, Pearson noted the amendments to the ordinance require a permit to cut down each tree.

On **MOTION** by Nebeker, 2nd by Jesse, a recommendation was made to the city council to grant approval to the proposed text amendments with the addition to Section 4. Landscaping requirement #2 **Landscaping plans shall comply with the standards of Section 6.060 clear vision area**, and correction in numbering. Motion unanimously approved. (See attached)

Pearson reported sending her Park Master Plan proposal to McNally and was currently waiting for his reply.

Pearson noted the invasive plants poster was hanging up at the post office and in city hall; other copies could be obtained online at www.cleanrivers-pdx.org.

Nebeker noted the Gearhart Homeowners has taken on the ivy removal. The first work party is scheduled for Saturday, October 10th @ 10 a.m. The group would be clipping ivy at the north end of the ridge path.

Pearson noted being directed by city staff to consider developing wind energy policies. She explained contents of the *Wind Energy* packets that were provided to the commissioners. Commissioners are to review the packets for discussion at the November commission meeting.

Discussion followed on holding a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan presentation on November 12th. Pearson will plan a program with a speaker and provide information to the secretary to allow sufficient time for advertising. On **MOTION** by Jesse, 2nd by Nebeker, a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan open house will be held on Thursday, November 12th @ 7:00 p.m. to be immediately followed by the regular meeting of the Planning Commission. Motion unanimously approved.

Mannex reminded commissioners about the quarterly ethics report. The secretary reported quarterly filings are no longer necessary; the state has gone back to a yearly filing.

On **MOTON** by Mannex, 2nd by Nebeker, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Cheryl A. Lund

November 12, 2009

Cheryl A. Lund, secretary

approved