

MINUTES

July 20, 2010

Official minutes of the regular meeting of the Two Harbors Planning Commission held July 20, 2010 in the City Council Chambers at 522 First Avenue, Two Harbors.

Present: Kittilson, Zastera, Scheidt, Senst, Simonson, McDonald, Davidson, Detlefsen (8)

Absent: Kari (1)

Others Present: Bergstad [ARDC]

Chair Zastera called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Scheidt, Kittilson to approve agenda. Motion approved by all members present and voting.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Davidson, Senst to approve July 06, 2010 minutes as written. Motion approved by all members present and voting.

Reports

Scheidt reported that the Two Harbors Kayak Festival would be August 6-8. People interested in volunteering should contact George Scheidt.

Zastera asked Bergstad if he had contacted Mn/DOT regarding the traffic control sign on the frontage road near Culver's. Bergstad stated that he had contacted Mn/DOT but had not heard back yet.

Detlefsen reported that the City had received a proposal from the owners of the old VFW building to rent the building for the City liquor store. The City will review the proposal.

Detlefsen reported that a group of City officials met with County and DNR representatives to discuss funding for the marina project. The City is being encouraged to help finance the project through bonding.

Old Business

a. NSSD Council Communications Report

Bergstad presented a report to the Planning Commission summarizing a discussion he had with ARDC planner Bryan Anderson about the Planning Commission's wish to develop local regulations allowing off-premise signs in the City. Based on the conversation Bergstad suggested the Planning Commission send a letter to the NSSD Council and Cook County, which had expressed similar issues with signage in the past, seeking cooperation and recommendations to see if state and federal regulations covering off-premise signs could be amended to allow communities along the NSSD to locally regulate off-premise signs.

The Planning Commission discussed the need to create clear and concrete off-site directional sign design and location standards that would support the local business community and maintain the attractive characteristics of Two Harbors.

Motion by Scheidt, Kittilson to have Bergstad draft a letter to all communities along the North Shore Scenic Drive asking for support of efforts to persuade FHWA and Mn/DOT to allow communities along the byway to develop and enforce local regulations for off-site directional signs that would support the local business community while maintaining the intrinsic characteristics of each community. Motion approved by all members present and voting.

b. Two Harbors Welcome Center and Trailhead Letter

Motion by the McDonald, Detlefsen to approve the letter of support to Congressman Oberstar for the Two Harbors Welcome Center and Trailhead Facility. Approved by all present and voting.

Comprehensive Plan

a. Vision Statement – July 06 Meeting Review

The Planning Commission reviewed the Vision Statement developed at the July 06 meeting. Bergstad presented the Lake County 5 Year Transportation Improvement Plan and highlighted the projects planned in Two Harbors.

b. 1999 Comprehensive Plan Review

Bergstad reviewed with the Planning Commission the assessment of the 1999 Comprehensive Plan's Action Tables. Bergstad concluded that many of the short-term recommendations that depended solely (or mostly) on City action were successfully completed. Recommendations that were not as successfully completed included long-term items that involved multiple partnerships and significant funding. Bergstad also stated that it would be important for the Planning Commission to annually review and adjust the new comprehensive plan and to be involved in reviewing major projects in the City for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held August 03, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers.

Motion by Kittilson, Senst to adjourn. Motion approved by all members present and voting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.