

The City of Montesano Planning Commission met on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Members present: Chairperson Ken Albert, Pro-Tem Chairperson Doris Torkelson, Will Foster, Candi Bachtell, Barb Ford and Ken Clary

Excused Absence: Jim Docsanes

Also Present: Community Development Coordinator Mike Wincewicz

Pro-Tem Chairperson Torkelson presided over the meeting until Chairperson Albert arrived at 7:35 p.m.

A motion to approve the minutes for the 8/20/15 meeting was made by Foster and seconded by Ford. So moved and carried.

New member Ken Clary was welcomed to the Planning Commission.

The Shoreline Master Program Update (SMPU) was discussed. Hazardous safety planning concerns were discussed at length. There was discussion as to the need of the City having policies & procedures and bonds. Wincewicz stated the Hazard Mitigation Plan should be a county wide plan that would include enforcement and penalties. Wincewicz informed the Commission that the county is in process of creating an all hazardous plan. Chuck Caldwell, Port of Grays Harbor, is another source to seek information as to what the Port's hazard plan will be/is.

Will Foster, along with fellow Commission members, presented an overview of the Downtown Montesano Plan and the process used to new member Ken Clary. Clary had concerns about standards of sidewalks, etc. being up to weight bearing standards that would be required in the Building Design Development Standards that had been proposed. Foster explained that the existing Building Code used during the building permit process has all the necessary safety standards/requirements. The goal is to protect what Montesano is while allowing growth. The plan recognizes the City as a geographical gateway to rivers, forests, fishing, hunting, camping, biking and hiking.

Light Industry Zoning availability of land was discussed. Foster stated that the Commission has done an inventory of lots that could be available for purchase and rezone in the future. Annexing properties on the east of town were also inventoried. Greater Grays Harbor was discussed as an information resource as to what new businesses/residents are looking for. Funding for buying up land when it becomes available so it will be accessible and affordable for future businesses was also discussed.

County Tourism Bicycle Route planning was discussed. Catherine Corkery is a member of this committee that has been working diligently on this project and had given a presentation the Commission several months ago. The Commission will invite her back to provide an update and will offer their assistance where possible.

A motion to adjourn was made by Clary and seconded by Ford. So moved and carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Debbie Wisdom
Planning Commission Secretary