

Meeting Minutes

Boulder Town Planning Commission

October 8, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

Commissioners present included Ray Gardner (acting chair), Bobbie Cleave, and Tom Jerome. Brian Dick and BJ Orozco were absent. Also present were Commission Clerk, Peg Smith; and Sergio Femenias.

Ray called the meeting to order at 8:05. Ray moved to approve the September 10 minutes; Bobbie seconded the motion, and all approved.

Discuss town survey categories

Ray suggested an important survey element being to determine the respondent's length of time living in Boulder area, renting or owning, and even intentions of investing in Boulder.

Tom wants to start totally fresh. Once a structure of categories has been formulated, then we can look at the old survey questions and see if/where they fit into the new model. Bobbie agreed that the 2004 survey has many good questions that would be good to follow up on, but many that could be dropped.

Tom said that some topics would be good for general information, but we specifically need to know things from a planning perspective. If members of the town council want other questions, they can add theirs.

Peg asked about the Commission's preference on sharing each other's information: online markup or hard copy? The next step is to come up with structure, then break out each heading and formulate questions. Tom offered to do that and send it to the commissioners. Once the categories are in place, the commissioners can start writing questions or assign different sections to different individuals.

Some suggested categories:

Infrastructure

Roads,

Community Service

Recycling, transportation, seniors, medical

Annexation

Surroundings

Night sky, quiet, open space

Development

Real estate, light industry, ag

Education

School facility, adult education

Employment

Demographics

Time in Boulder, area of residence (town, draw, B Mesa), age, employment and marital status, etc.

Bobbie brought up the need to first determine how the survey would be distributed. Tom thought each individual should be surveyed. However, how do we send these out? If the surveys are sent one-per-household, who would get to respond? Ray suggested numbering the surveys and only sending them to permanent residents 18 and older. Tom suggested voter rolls to capture multiple individuals at a given residence who would be qualified. The commissioners decided that mailed surveys, using the registered voter list as a primary filter, and possible property tax records as the second filter would be a way to capture most of the qualified audience of potential respondents. Beyond that, surveys could be numbered and/or color-coded to indicate other sample variables.

Discuss 2010 Meeting Times

Bobbie suggested 7:00 p.m. as the year-round meeting time and asked Ray if it would create a hardship for him to get here by 7 during the summer months. Ray said 7 would probably be doable. Bobbie moved to stay with meetings on the second Thursday of each month, but start all meetings at 7 p.m. Tom seconded the motion, and all approved.

Other business

Tom announced the public hearing to be held Oct 15 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall concerning upcoming grant applications relative to building renovation. Tom had attended one of the two informational meetings on these grants, and said the public hearing is a required step to start the planning process. Next would be getting a preliminary architect to draw the plans, then apply for a specific amount of grant funding. He said the Town Park Committee had started the process with a basic "footprint" drawing, but all suggestions are welcome. The current plan keeps the historic front rooms of the building intact, with a completely new back section of the building. However, all wiring and plumbing needs to be completely redone.

Bobbie was asked to bring up the question of neon signs and non-compliance with the ordinance, specifically at Boulder Mesa Restaurant. Tom said the topic of signs, in general, needs to be revisited. Old issues, such as sign height, still haven't been fully resolved, and all ordinances need to be enforced, or forget it.

Next Meeting

- Signage, Neon sign lighting--- non-compliance; also lights on freestanding signs.
- Report on status of Drain property
- Continuation of survey discussion

Tom moved to adjourn, Bobbie seconded, all approved. Ray adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Peg Smith, Planning Commission Clerk] Date

Approved: _____ Date: _____