

Minutes, Joint Work Meeting, Boulder Town Planning Commission and Town Council

November 6, 2017

Commissioners present: Carla Saccomano, Colleen Thompson, Perry Tancredi. Town Council present: Pete Benson, Steve Cox. Secretary, Peg Smith; Members of public: Mark Nelson, Tomas Robison, Heather McDivitt, Ryan McDermott. Carla called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Purpose of the Meeting: Discuss Formation of Community Work Groups

Carla reviewed the purpose: to determine four working groups (Land Use, Economic Development, Future Visions of Boulder, Housing) who will provide recommendations for updating the General Plan and ordinances.

The reason for work groups to try to get as many ideas as possible across the entire community. Besides ideas, the work groups will need to do a little research; they'll be learning and sharing information with each other. They should represent different perspectives, but be able to listen to other people too. She proposed also making available various "resource people" to the groups-- individuals particularly knowledgeable about the given areas. She discussed the ideas she'd presented in her Work Meeting prep notes (attached). To prepare for the work groups, we need to order more of the Rural Planning Group booklets (and put out notice to sign up for additional copies).

She said other individuals have already offered assistance to produce new mapping. These maps would update the existing zoning maps and would also include overlays to display roads, septic locations, etc. They'd include electronic versions so people can play "what if" and everyone can see exactly what is being described. Steve agreed that Planning Commission should have this capability anyway. Carla said it would also be a learning process for people in town to discover what it costs to put in a road, etc.

Steve said the General Plan already states goals and policies, but that some of the policies need work. They need to be narrowed down to have meaning and include actions that are needed to achieve the goals. It's a good framework, it just needs work to identify things more concretely.

Perry agreed: Policies are meaningless without ordinances behind them. Conversely, every ordinance that remains in place should link to a General Plan policy.

Getting people to join work groups:

Carla: We should work toward getting at least five people per group (not including the resource people). Perry part of our role would be to help narrow the focus of the discussions or to prioritize, at least to get started. We need a good representative group. If we feel we've reached a good critical mass of people for a given group to select from, then we can decide if we need to openly solicit for more people, via pegboard, word of mouth, the stores, the PO.

There was general discussion of specific skills and expertise needed. Dave Conine, Tom Hoyt, Curtis Oberhansly on housing or land use. Randy Catmull, who's knowledgeable about land use and infrastructure. Someone from the school on community identify or econ development. Blake, Josh, or others who have different kinds of businesses for econ dev. People who understand ag needs for all the committees. Gladys, Farlan, the Planning Commissioners to advise committees on specifics such as fire suppression. Constance, Haylee and Garin on cottage

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industries. It's important for these people to know they're providing information, not running the meetings. The people who make up the work groups need to be able to work well together, be communicative, be available to do the actual work from the meetings. The resource people don't need to attend all the meetings, just be available to the group if there are questions that come up. People who live outside Boulder Town should also be invited because they have interest as well as varied expertise.

The group concurred that at least one of the groups should be selected and in place by the December Planning meeting. "If we feel we have enough people in two weeks, we should start. At least get them materials." Everyone now needs to be involved in talking to people.

The groups will make regular reports on their progress to Planning and/or Town Council. The Planning Commission will be adding a work meeting to its monthly regular meeting schedule, in order to make sure both administrative and planning functions can be covered. Steve thought it would be good to have both PC and TC on each of the four groups to better provide continuity to town meetings.

Perry will advise Housing and Land Use; Colleen on Econ Development; Carla on Community Identity. Call or email Perry, as the point person to gather names: 7667, 415-601-3725

Materials:

- RPG booklets: order 25 copies for the work groups now, and put out a notice (\$10/copy for anyone else.)
- Get everyone hard copies of the General Plan, and ordinances.

Plan

Target March 1 for the groups to present their recommendations, assuming various public meeting updates before that.

Perry said we don't need to do the whole GP and ordinance updates all at once; it should be a continual process of evaluating and updating these things.

We can set aside five or ten minutes at each Planning meeting to update or discuss problems. The important thing is to end up with recommendations. A lot of input doesn't go anywhere. We need groups that are accountable to coming up with recommendations.

Carla adjourned the meeting at 7:15pm

Peg Smith, Planning Commission Clerk

Date