

**CITY OF SANDSTONE
PLANNING COMMISSION
September 13, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Randy Riley, Andrew Spartz, Cassie Gaede
Members absent: Rene Stadin, Reese Frederickson, Cassandra Linder
Staff present: Administrator Kathy George, Leah Jackson
Others: Mayor Pete Spartz; Council Members Tim Franklin & Val Palmer; Park & Rec Commissioners Dave Barsness, Mary Franklin, Kerry White; Resident Steve Palmer; WSB Planner Karina Heim

Chair Riley called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. It was noted that a quorum of the Planning Commission was not present; therefore, no decisions can be made at this meeting.

AGENDA – The Agenda could not be approved.

MINUTES – The minutes of the July 12, 2017 meeting could not be approved.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: WSB Planner Karina Heim was present to explain the Comprehensive Plan Update. She presented a DRAFT Comp Plan and explained to the audience what a Comp Plan is and what purposes it serves for the community. She reviewed the process that has been taking place, starting with a kick-off meeting that took place in August, 2016. She reviewed the various ways that public input has been received over the past year and other documents that were used to help define goals and establish action items. Heim then briefly reviewed each of the 10 chapters in the Draft Plan.

Chair Riley asked for comments from those in attendance. Some of the comments were as follows:

- Legacy Funds have been a great resource for making improvements to Robinson Park.
- It is important to protect the historical artifacts at Robinson Park while still allowing the public to use the park.
- The City should work towards accommodating visitors – more restaurants, hotel, etc.
- Visitors / tourists can make a positive impact on local businesses.
- Survey visitors to see what they would like.
- Some people in the community do not want visitors here.
- Some of the data in the Draft Comp Plan is based on false info because of the participants – (more focus on downtown rather than the Interstate area).
- Use of Survey Monkey was questioned as there was no determination about whether or not the respondents were property owners in Sandstone.
- The Plan does emphasize development needs in all areas of town.

- Page 34 – Prospective Interchange Development – perhaps “harmonious” is not the right word – *Any new development should be **harmonious** with surrounding land uses...*
- The Plan should address strategies for bringing more people to town – tourists, young families, businesses, jobs, workers, etc.
- The major employers operate 24 hours a day / 7 days a week – however, the town closes up at 5:00 p.m.
- This document (Comp Plan) is exactly what is needed in this community.
- Some of the charts did not print out correctly.

Since a quorum of the Planning Commission was not present, and since the group was engaged with meaningful input, all were asked to take some time to read through the DRAFT Comp Plan and submit any additional thoughts or comments to the City Administrator. The item will be placed on the October 11th Planning Commission for further discussion.

OLD & CONTINUING BUSINESS – No Discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Planning Commission Vacancy – The Planning Commission currently has 6 members. City Code states that there should be 7 members. Staff placed a notice in the local newspaper asking interested applicants to submit a letter by September 8th. The City received one letter, from Steve Palmer. Without a quorum present, Commissioners directed the Administrator to put the item on the Council Agenda for approval.
- B. Adult Oriented
- C. City Code 610
- D. Chickens

In the absence of a quorum, items B, C, and D were deferred until the October 11th meeting.

OTHER: None

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy George, City Administrator