



City of Petoskey

PLANNING COMMISSION

June 12, 2014

The regular meeting of the City of Petoskey Planning Commission was held in the City Hall Community Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Thursday, May 15, 2014. Roll was called at 7:00 P.M. and the following were:

Present: Gary Greenwell, Chairperson
James Holmes
Elizabeth Looze
Emily Meyerson
Rick Neumann
Cynthia Linn Robson
Eric Yetter

Absent: Dana Andrews
Dean D. Burns

Staff: Amy Tweeten, City Planner

Upon motion and support, the minutes of the May 8 and May 15, 2014 meetings were approved.

Public Hearing on Sign Ordinance Amendments

Chairman Greenwell opened the public hearing and staff provided an overview of the proposed changes to Sections 2.1, 6.1, 7.1 and 8.2 as well as Tables 5, 6, 7, and 8. Seeing no public present and having received no public comment, the hearing was closed.

Commission Discussion and Action on Sign Ordinance Amendments

Commissioners made recommendations to change the approving body in 8.2(j) to the Planning Commission; to change the language in 7.1(5)(d) to read: "A building or plaza with four (4) or more businesses may increase the area of a free-standing sign by six (6) square feet per additional business, not to exceed a maximum sign size of 42 square feet."; to change the text in the first sentence of Section 2.1 (29) Ground-floor Wall Area to read: "For purposes of this Ordinance, the ground-floor wall area is the width of the wall multiplied by twelve (12) feet, the assumed standard ground-floor wall height."; and to add the symbols for percentage and feet to all tables.

Upon motion and support, the proposed Sign Ordinance amendments, as amended, were recommended to City Council. Motion carried 7-0.

Review of Chapters 8 and 9 of the City Master Plan

Staff reviewed some needed updates to Chapter 8, Intergovernmental Cooperation, including additions of the Emmet County Land Bank Authority and Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, the Clarion Road Truck-Rail Transfer Station, the creation of the District Library, and sharing of the Curtis Avenue facility with Allied EMS. Commissioners suggested updates to the federal roadway funding program, the Little Traverse Wheelway language, and adding information on the joint work with the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments and the Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency. Under strategies and actions, suggestions were made to add trails to the joint recreation authority, and to remove the organizations mentioned that enhance the community quality of life.

For Chapter 9, Implementation, staff provided the updates to the ordinance narratives and then reviewed the status of the items in the implementation table. Commissioners suggested noting “2014 updates” and questioned why creation of a local historic district wasn’t in the table. Staff responded that the ordinances were put in the narrative at the beginning instead of in Table 9.1, but could be added to the table. Staff proposed that future changes to the Zoning Ordinance would be involve more input by the Commission on policy issues rather than the wording of the actual text. The process should help focus the Commission on what issues need addressing versus spending significant time on the wording of the text.

Updates

Staff noted the first public meeting on the Public Art Plan to be held on Wednesday, June 25 at 10:00 a.m. at the Carnegie Building.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.