

Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission of the City of Oregon met Thursday March 20, 2012, 6:00 P.M. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Amy Trimble Chairman
Mike Bowers
Joe Ebens
Mark Herman
Jerry Hinrichs
Tom Miller
Rich Rhoads

Mark Herman called the meeting to order.

Joe Ebens moved to approve the December 15, 2011 minutes, Seconded by Rich Rhoads.

Motion carried. No Nays.

With the passing of Dale Geyer, Mike Bowers moved to recommend to the Mayor that he appoint Rob Zimmerman as an alternate, Seconded Tom Miller.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Amy arrived and took over meeting.

Three people have signed up to talk about the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Amy asked that they go out in the front lobby to discuss who will speak for and who will speak against. Each will be given five minutes to talk; so that the commission can go ahead with the rest of the agenda items.

The TAC Committee had a meeting to discuss the Settlers Ridge Subdivision. Realtors, developers, and people are calling City Hall wanting information about the subdivision or a permit. The property has been annexed, but not accepted for the fact that several things have not been completed. Cory Buck, of Willett Hofmann & Assoc, along with Mike Bowers and Dave Kent have come up with a punch list of things that need to be addressed prior to the City accepting the subdivision as complete. The punch list will be forwarded to the City Attorney so that he can write the owner a letter stating what needs to be completed before acceptance of the subdivision.

Richard and Cheryl Bunton, who reside at 518 N 5th Street, have submitted an application for a variance to add an addition to their existing garage. They are asking for a 3 foot variance. A Public Hearing date was set for April 17, 2012 at 6:00 pm.

The Historic Preservation Commission has recommended a Historic District Ordinance to the City Council. Mayor Tom Stone has asked the Plan Commission to review the ordinance.

Ken Williams spoke for the ordinance. He suggested changes to the ordinance along with a Q&A handout.

Kim Krahenbuhl spoke against the ordinance. He had concerns with the additional powers of the city and taking rights away from property owners. Cost of requirements could hurt a business or resident. A good example would be where the Oregon Park District building is located if the ordinance would have been in place. The Ruby Nash School that was located there prior to the OPD would probably have had Historic Status. Anyone could nominate a business or residents as wanting Historic Status.

Commission members also had changes and concerns with the Ordinance. A few felt that it was too many regulations. Amy suggested that the changes be made to the ordinance that were discussed and forwarded to the Historic Preservation Committee. After they get a chance to look them over; then have a combined meeting with them and the Plan Commission members.

Mayor Tom Stone would like to see this Historic Ordinance recommended for "Oregon" not for a large community. He would like to see both committees working together to come with a final copy before recommending to the City Council for a final vote.

Rich Rhoads moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Joe Ebens.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Adjourned at 6:50 pm

Charlene Ruthe, Secretary