

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2023
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The Town of Orange Planning Commission held a meeting at 6:00 p.m., in the Town of Orange Community Meeting Room. Planning Commission members present were: Chairman Benjamin Sherman, Vice-Chair Page Sullenberger, Commissioners Rita Carroll and L.J. Taylor. Staff members present were Director of Community Development John Cooley, AICP, CZA, and Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC. Commissioner Donald Schafer and Mayor Roby were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order. The Deputy Town Clerk called roll and noted that there was a quorum present.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2023

Motion was made by Vice-Chair Sullenberger, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to approve the meeting minutes of March 27, 2023, as presented. On vote, Chairman Sherman – aye, Vice-Chair Sullenberger – aye, Commissioner Carroll – aye, Commissioner Schafer – absent, and Commissioner Taylor – aye. Motion carried.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATES

The Director of Community Development stated that he agreed that others will need to be involved with discussion on updates to the Comprehensive Plan. The Director of Community Development stated further that the Commission needed to have framework first for citizens to view. The Director of Community Development provided the Commission with an outline for Themes 1-3.

A lengthy discussion was held.

Commissioner Taylor stated the framework, short-term and long-term ideas were a good starting point.

The Director of Community Development stated the Vice-Chair Sullenberger submitted a Vision statement idea. The Director of Community Development explained the intentions of the Comprehensive Plan. It was the consensus of the Commission to review each Theme individually.

Chairman Sherman stated that once the baseline for the Themes were formed then committees could be formed.

The following were ideas presented by members of the Commission:

- Survey businesses-what types of jobs they offer– involve the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development and the Career Works Center
- Encourage existing businesses to work with ODA

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- Celebrate the businesses in Town – celebrate their success
- Encourage tourism to get Orange on the map
- Collaborate with other Towns
- Connectivity of sidewalks
- Town/business partnerships
- Social media promoting the town
- Business center
- Bring in more retail on Main Street
- Find investors for Bank of America building

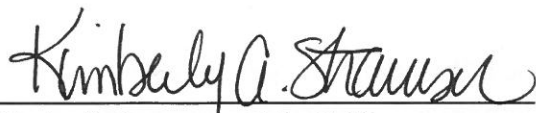
A discussion was held on the 5 plus acre parcels in town map that was provided by the Director of Community Development. The Director of Community Development stated that at the next meeting Theme 2 - Infrastructure would be discussed. The Director of Community Development stated further that he would make changes discussed to Theme 1 – Economy and bring back to the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The Commission will meet on Monday, June 26th , at 6:00 p.m.

Vice-Chair Sullenberger stated she would not be present at the next meeting as she will be on vacation.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk



Chairman Benjamin Sherman