



**Planning Commission Agenda
Town of Orange Community Meeting Room – 235 Warren Street
Monday, April 22, 2024**

6:00 p.m.

1. Call to order.

Roll Call:

Chairman Benjamin Sherman
Vice-Chair Page Sullenberger
Commissioner Rita Carroll

Commissioner Donald Schafer
Commissioner LJ Taylor
Councilmember Jeremiah Pent, *Ex-Officio*

- 2. Public Comment** – *The public is invited to make brief comments that would not necessarily require scheduling a separate Agenda item. It is asked that everyone speaking please state their name and address or group affiliation, if any.*
- 3. Consideration of the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of March 25th & April 8th, 2024.**
- 4. Continued Discussion of Comprehensive Plan – Themes 10 & 11.**
- 5. Discussion of Parklets. (*Director of Community Development*)**
- 6. Next Meeting – May 13, 2024, at 6p.m. – Work Session Meeting**
- 7. Adjournment.**

The Town of Orange Planning Commission Agenda Package is available on the Town's website for review at www.townoforangeva.org

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2024

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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 Donald Schafer. Staff members present were Director of Community Development John Cooley, AICP, CZA, Town Attorney Catherine Lea, and Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC. Councilmember Jeremiah Pent and Commissioner LJ Taylor were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patrick McAloon of 155 West Main Street appeared before the Commission and suggested the Town look for grant opportunities through a third-party consultant to help with revisions to the Comprehensive Plan. A brief discussion was held.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2024

Motion was made by Vice-Chair Sullenberger, seconded by Commissioner Carroll, to approve the meeting minutes of January 29, 2024, as presented. On vote, Chairman Sherman – aye, Vice-Chair Sullenberger – aye, Commissioner Carroll – aye, Commissioner Schafer – aye, and Commissioner Taylor – absent. Motion carried.

UPDATE OF KEAN ROAD SUBDIVISION – SP2024-1

The Director of Community Development reported that the plans were distributed, and comments were received from Public Works, VDOT, Orange County and Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District. A discussion was held.

The Director of Community Development also gave an update on Phase II of Round Hill Meadows project.

DISCUSSION OF SOLAR RESIDENTIAL & SOLAR COMMERCIAL

The Director of Community Development stated that the Town's Zoning Ordinance didn't address solar at all, however the State Code did. The Director of Community Development stated further that the State Code permitted solar for residential and businesses that served that structure. After discussion, the Director of Community Development stated that staff would work with the Town Attorney to address solar farms in the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

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CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Director of Community Development provided the Commission with Comprehensive Plan workbooks. The Director of Community Development stated that staff was requesting that the Commission finish reviewing all 12 Themes of the Comprehensive Plan before public input.

Commissioner Carroll suggested that water and climate change be addressed in the Comprehensive Plan.

The Director of Community Development stated that he would reach out to PD-9 to get the demographic information for the Town.

Vice-Chair Sullenberger asked if the plan had to be a 20-year plan. The Director of Community Development stated that State Code required revisions every 5 years. A discussion was held.

DISCUSSION OF MAIN STREET ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT)

The Director of Community Development reported that he would be meeting with RDA and the landscape architect on Thursday to walk Main Street. The Director of Community Development stated that some businesses would like to bump out sidewalks and that some parking would be lost. The Director of Community Development stated further that public meetings would need to be held.

A discussion was held on outdoor seating for restaurants on Main Street.

DISCUSSION OF PARKLETS (DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT)

The Director of Community Development stated that he provided the Commission with handouts on parklets. The Director of Community Development stated further that the biggest concern was safety. A discussion was held

The Director of Community Development requested that the Commission review the information provided and be prepared to give feedback at the next meeting.

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NEXT MEETING

The next Planning Commission meeting will be on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6 :00 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk

Chairman Benjamin Sherman

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2024

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The Town of Orange Planning Commission held a work session 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 Donald Schafer. Staff members present were Director of Community Development John Cooley, AICP, CZA, Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC and Town Attorney Catherine Lea. Commissioner LJ Taylor and Councilmember Pent were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

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

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Director of Community stated that Themes 8, 9, 10 & 11 still needed review and discussion. A discussion was held on these Themes. The following ideas were discussed as well and where they would fit into the Themes.

- Recreation/Health Center
 - Indoor pool for recreation/rehabilitation
 - YMCA

The Commission asked staff for demographics of the town or suggested doing a demographic survey, this could possibly be done through water billing.

A discussion was held on the need for a workspace area downtown. Commissioner Carroll stated that the Art Center was willing to do one on the 2nd floor.

A discussion was held on the need for advanced technology for infrastructure. The Commission suggested looking at what was new in the technology world once a year. The Commission also suggested to encourage Council to add a technology line item to the budget.

A discussion was held on Theme 9 – The Arts. The Commission asked that staff invite all the schools, Paint it Orange, The Art Center, Blue Ridge Art Center, the Music Room, Orange School of Performing Arts and Galen Greenlaw of OEI Events to a Planning Commission work session after school was out to get their input on goals for Theme 9 of the Comprehensive Plan.

Themes 10 & 11 will be discussed further at the next Commission meeting.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF PARKLETS

After discussion, the Director of Community Development requested that the Commission review the information that was provided to them and be ready to give their feedback at the next meeting. Chairman Sherman requested a recommendation from staff of an example of a proposed parklet.

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NEXT MEETING

The next Planning Commission meeting will be on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk

Chairman Benjamin Sherman