

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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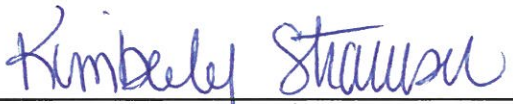
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NEXT MEETING

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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly Strawser".

Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Benjamin Sherman".

Chairman Benjamin Sherman