

Meeting of the City of Livingston Planning Board
November 17, 2021

Roll Call: Stacy Jovick, Mike Petry, Jim Barrett, Taya Cromley, Torrey Lyons, Jessi Wilcox, Melissa Newts

5:34

Approval of minutes: JW motion, Taya second. Motion passes.

MM Planning Update:

1st input meeting for housing action plan today. PCEC and HRDC looking for input on the plan. The draft has been sent out. Lila's writing plan. Would like to have the plan presented to PB in some form. Will be put to the commission for adoption. Trails and active transportation plan hopefully drafted soon. Will go through PB and parks and trails for public input and public meetings. Hoping to have kickoff for the downtown plan. MSU design students working on design insights. May have a public meeting with students. After that will have a downtown planning process. Had a meeting with a developer, may see a subdivision application in the next few months, no formal application yet. Zoning update R3 was recommended for approval, should go to commission soon. Allow placing mixed-use zones where the future land use map is suggested. The zoning commission will have a public meeting with maps in December, a charrette-style meeting. The city commission decided to wait to make a decision about the future of the planning board until after the strategic plan is completed. Jessi and Jim's terms will be up at the end of the year, the positions will be open to the public, the positions will be freeholders only. A yearly planning board summary will be coming up soon.

SJ: Zoning board five positions open at once?

MM: Their terms run simultaneously to the chair. A peculiarity of the bylaws of that board.

MM: The board will need to sort out officer roles in January.

SJ: Is it possible to have two commissioners on the planning board?

MM: State law allows it, we'll see what the commission wants to do. We can remain as is but will be up to the commission.

JW: What will the downtown plan actually do?

MM: Will give some recommendations on business, walkability, urban design recs. Funded by MT main street program, ensuring revitalizing downtowns. 2002 downtown plan is all urban design.

JW: Does it take inventory of second-story spaces or recommend actions on that?

MM: There is a draft that contains inventories of all uses of all floors of all buildings downtown. Not sure if the plan will have recommendations on that exactly.

SJ: Where exactly is the plan focused?

MM: Focused on the commercial portion of downtown.

TC: Funding for implementation or just the plan?

MM: Just the plan. The funding is much broader and possibly future rounds of the grant can get into implementation.

JW: Has Bozeman regulated str rentals?

MM: They have a permitting system and some sort of rentals. They can't tax them specifically, but there are fees attached to the permits. The state restricts taxes on them.

MP: Do we have an idea how many str's we have in the city.

MM: In zip code 330, maybe 250 in the city, maybe less. Most air bnb's are whole houses. Potentially 200 houses being run as air bnb's instead of being rented out.

SJ: STRs are under the purview of commission?

MM: Yes, they would have to approve an ordinance change to require licensing. I don't have any idea whether there will be a move to do so or not.

MM: Public Works - The bond issuance on the north side crossing failed, that public works plans on the north side. Commission approved a new building for the public works department. Improvement district for green acres to bring them onto sewer system.

JW: Can you elaborate on the outcome of the bond failing? Is there a plan BY?

MM: No. Voters didn't want to spend that money on a crossing. Doesn't tell us much, without the finding it's not something the city can do. It will continue to be discussed. One of the highest priorities in the active transportation plan is the 5th street crossing. It also discusses how the school layout affects traffic across the tracks.

Board Comments:

MN: Post growth policy celebration in person.

MM: Commissioner training on January 12th with MS extension agent.

MN: Done many of these trainings and they are so helpful. I hope that the board members attend.

SJ: Is that at MSU or here?

MN: In the evening and I hope there will be something on zoom, it is a hard time for those who work and or have kids.

SJ: The composition of this board will stay the same?

MM: Until the strategic plan is done. Under state law, we can have two. With Holmes on board and two electeds, someone will have to go. That decision will be up to the commission.

JW: Motion to adjourn.

TC: Second.

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM.