



City of Yachats

## YACHATS PLANNING COMMISSION

May 21, 2019

### Work Session Draft Minutes

Vice-Chair Lance Bloch called the May 21, 2019 special work session of the Yachats Planning Commission to order at 2:00 pm in the Room 1 of the Yachats Commons. Members present: Doug Conner, Helen Anderson, Lance Bloch, Christine Orchard, and Loren Dickinson. Absent: Mary Ellen O'Shaughnessey and Jacqueline Danos. Staff Present: City Planner Dave Mattison. Audience: 1.

#### **I. Dana Nichols, Planner with Council of Governments (COG)**

Dana Nichols from the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments explained she was under contract with the City to assist in planning work. She provided a general handout of the planning work that COG does and explained the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) COG has signed with the City. She noted they would be conducted a general code audit.

Planner Mattison noted he had discussed with Nichols working on a parking inventory and the Village Circulation Plan. Mattison explained the Comp Plan does reference the Circulation Plan as it was part of State Goal 12. Mattison recalled the Circulation Plan was last updated in the early 2000s.

Nichols asked the Commission for the issues they were concerned about or wanted assistance on. Commissioners mentioned:

1. Lighting – Nichols noted the City would need political backing to implement a Dark Sky type system of lighting. Commissioner Anderson explained the ideas around trespass lighting.
2. Legal Advice – Nichols was not certain that COG's attorney could provide legal advice but indicated she would find out. Bloch stressed the importance of getting a second opinion on some legal opinions from the City's attorney. Anderson suggested that the Commission could use COG to review their work in lieu of the attorney.
3. Parks/Recreation Map – Mattison noted the current Parks Master Plan was not complete. Nichols noted Goal 8 addressed recreational needs. Commissioner Dickinson noted the Trails Committee has much data on use of the trails. Nichols suggested it was critical to have a good inventory of what the City has.
4. Visual Barriers and Fences – The current code is not very specific. Commissioners also discussed different approaches to protecting views.
5. By Laws for Interpreting Code – Mattison noted there is no statement that the Planning Commission has the authority to interpret the code.

- 1 6. Process of Code Enforcement – Nichols believed that appeals of Code Enforcement would  
2 be brought to the Council. Nichols suggested that the Commission not get involved with  
3 enforcement.
- 4 7. Getting Resident Feedback – Nichols explained several methods of surveying residents.  
5 Anderson stated the new city website will allow for users to complete online surveys. Bloch  
6 added they could send a survey or a link to a survey with the water bills/newsletter. Nichols  
7 asserted there was much value in doing annual surveys so that change could be tracked.
- 8 8. Public Involvement Plan – Anderson noted there was a line in Goal K of the Comp Plan  
9 referring to a Public Involvement Plan, but she could find no such plan.
- 10 9. Combining Planning and Code Enforcement – Nichols suggested this combination would be  
11 dependent upon the person doing the planning work.
- 12 10. Estuary Management Plan – Mattison noted he saw a reference to an Estuary Management  
13 Plan. Anderson noted there was a Wetlands Inventory completed years ago. Nichols  
14 discussed some of the issues that would be part of such a plan, and she indicated she would  
15 find out more detail about what needed to be included in such a plan. Orchard noted there  
16 was a wetlands plant inventory on the Trails website.

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18 Bloch adjourned the work session at 3:12 pm.

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22 Lance Bloch, Vice-Chair

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Date

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24 Minutes prepared by H H Anderson on June 6, 2019.