

City of Kalamazoo
PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes
July 6, 2017
FINAL

Second Floor, City Hall
Commission Chambers
241W. South Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Members Present: Rachel Hughes-Nilsson, Chair; Gregory Milliken; James Pitts; Sakhi Vyas; Derek Wissner; Alfonso Espinosa

Members Excused: Charley Coss, Vice Chair; Emily Greenman Wright

City Staff: Christina Anderson, City Planner; Rebekah Kik, Community Planning & Development Director; Robert Bauckham, Senior Development Planner; Clyde Robinson, City Attorney; Amanda Coeur, Recording Secretary

Guests: None

A. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Hughes-Nilsson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Planner Anderson proceeded with roll call and determined that the aforementioned members were present.

C. ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA

Planner Anderson clarified that there is not a presentation on the draft Master Plan on tonight's agenda. Staff will be going over the review and approval process and asking the commission to approve a request of the City Commission to release the draft Master Plan for review by adjacent governmental entities. Commissioner Milliken, supported by Commissioner Wissner, moved approval of the July 6, 2017 Planning Commission agenda, as amended. With a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Vyas, supported by Commissioner Espinosa moved approval of the June 1, 2017 Planning Commission minutes as presented. With a voice vote, the motion carried.

E. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

G. CITIZENS' COMMENTS (Regarding non-agenda items)

None

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Presentation on Medical Marihuana Regulation

Attorney Robinson gave a presentation to commission about medical marihuana. It is a shorter version of the presentation he gave to City Commission. Attorney Robinson gave background information regarding the Medical Marihuana Act, and how it will affect zoning regulations for the City.

At this time City Staff is recommending amending the home occupation ordinance in the zoning code and amending the zoning code to define where facilities can be located. Proposed zoning regulations could happen in the following zones: M-1, M-2, CC, CCBD, and CMU.

Attorney Robinson explained that there will not be limits on the number of growers, processors, transporters, and compliance centers. There will be regulations on provisioning centers, which would allow one center per every 10,000 residents. There will also be 3 dispensaries allowed within the City, which is included in the one per every 10,000 ratio.

Planning Commission can expect to see zoning updates in August, which will be sent to City Commission in September.

Commissioner Wissner asked Attorney Robinson what Grand Rapids and Portage are doing. Attorney Robinson has spoken to the City of Portage attorney who is looking at something similar to the City of Kalamazoo. He mentioned that both the City of Kalamazoo and the City of Portage are considering not allowing provisioning centers within 500 feet of other jurisdictions. Attorney Robinson is unaware of what Grand Rapids is proposing.

Presentation of the Master Plan Review and Approval Process

Director Kik presented to the commission about the process the Master Plan will be undergoing. Tonight the Commission is voting to agree to ask the City Commission to release the draft Master Plan to local jurisdictions. State law states there does not need to be a public comment period, but City Staff agree there should be one. The 63 day review of the Master Plan will start on July 18th.

During this time, City Staff will begin meeting with all departments, boards, and commissions. Staff will also be going to neighborhood board meetings, community organizations, local state and regional organizations, IK2025 workgroups and steering committees, and other small groups and stakeholders to receive input.

The public comment period will begin on August 1st, staff and volunteers will be at Art Hop, Mother's of Hope Picnic, and National Night Out to gain feedback from citizens. There will also be a citywide meeting on September 12th. Copies of the Master Plan will be available for review at City Hall, Kalamazoo Public Library locations and on the city's website after August 1st. The public comment period ends on September 15th.

The public hearing for the Master Plan will be presented to Planning Commission on October 5th. At this meeting the Planning Commission will approve or disapprove the Master Plan. City Commission will vote on October 9th on the Master Plan. If they disagree with Planning Commission's recommendation

they have to write a letter to Planning Commission outlining their reasons. Planning Commission can then choose to continue forward with the Master Plan or make edits.

Director Kik also commented that July 7th was the last day to comment on the Strategic Vision.

Commissioner Wissner asked questions regarding how potential amendments would work. Attorney Robinson commented that the Planning Commission could make changes but it would push the process back. If changes need to occur the 63 day comment period will start over.

Commissioner Milliken asked if City Commission just had to have a majority vote for the Master Plan. Director Kik responded that yes only a majority vote is needed.

Commissioner Milliken, supported by Commissioner Wissner, moved ask the City Commission to release the draft Master Plan to local governments. With a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

I. NEW BUSINESS

None

J. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

K. CITY COMMISSION LIAISON COMMENTS

None

L. CITY PLANNER'S REPORT

Planner Bauckham gave the City Planner's Report. He shared with the Commission that 29 projects are underway or have been completed so far in 2017, which puts us beyond the goals for the year. He spoke about Waldon Woods, Hardings, Exchange Place and Parkway Flats.

He mentioned that the annual Planning Commission Retreat will be held the second or third week in November.

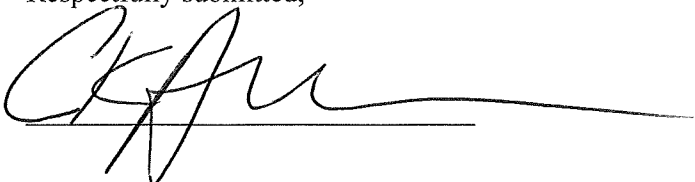
M. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS BY PLANNING COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Espinosa asked Planning staff to look into the Farmer's Market entrances and parking around there.

M. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Kik', written over a horizontal line.

Planning Commission

July 6, 2017

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Christina Anderson,

City Planner

Community Planning & Development