

City of McCleary
Planning Commission Meeting
April 3, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Evert Challstedt. Members present: Ben Ator, Jeff Catterlin, Paul Custis and Nancy Koeppen. Also present: Busse Nutley, City Administrator; and Tommi from the Vidette.

The minutes from the March 6 meeting were approved as received. There was no public comment.

Ms. Nutley gave an update on the Wildcat Creek Aquifer moratorium. A public meeting was held on March 22 to provide information from Evergreen Rural Water of Washington and the state Department of Health. The City Council will hold a work session at their next meeting on April 4 to discuss the water quality issues and to determine what the City's testimony (if any) should be at the County's hearing on the moratorium on April 11.

Ms. Nutley told the Commission that the Mayor and Council would be considering a task list for the Commission to undertake at their next meeting on April 4. Until then, it is not certain exactly what the Council will request, but they are considering asking the Commission to review the Six-Year Street Plan, update the Parks and Recreation Plan, review the Development Standards and develop a landscape plan for the Community Center site.

A brief discussion was held on failing septic tanks that are located in the City. Ms. Nutley said that there are "only a handful" of septic tanks inside the City limits, and most are located along Simpson on the west end of the City. The issue of developing a policy for dealing with septic tanks that fail was put off until more work is completed on the aquifer that the City is hopeful will go forward.

The Commission members expressed interest in developing a landscape plan for the now-barren site behind the Community Center. Various ideas were surfaced, including an area for picnicking and barbequing, and open space for casual games and activities. The idea of replanting trees or a garden was not a high priority. Ms. Nutley said that the staff had been attempting to contact WSU Extension to have Master Gardeners or landscape design students to provide a design, but the contact person has been ill. After discussion, a strategy emerged: the staff will find someone such as WSU Extension to meet with the Commission for a design session.

The existing Comprehensive Land Use Plan was adopted in 2002, so the Commission decided it probably did not require attention at this time.

The Parks and Recreation Plan was last updated in 1997, and the City no longer qualifies to receive grants from state agencies such as the IAC (Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation). Ms. Nutley and Public Facilities Manager Todd Baun will write the new plan, but due to current conflicting priorities cannot begin the task until this

summer. The Commission members were eager to actively participate and agreed to find and review other communities plans and to work on the policies and strategies.

The Commission decided to set its regular meeting date as the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30 to 7:00, with the agreement to meet in special meetings if the work load warranted it.

The next meeting is May 15, 2007 at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers. The proposed agenda is:

1. Request from Mayor and Council for Research and Reports
2. Update on Wildcat Creek Aquifer moratorium
3. Community Center Site landscape design
4. Parks and Recreation Plan
5. Public Comment

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.