CITY OF ST. JOHNS PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 26, 2023

The Planning & Zoning Commission regular meeting was duly posted. Chairman Ron Cisco called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the City of St. Johns Conference Room.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Ron Cisco, Vice Chairman Lacy Greer, Commissioner Jill Patterson, Commissioner Carol Perezchica, Commissioner Ben Brown (came in late), and Vice Mayor Joe Greene.

STAFF PRESENT: Community Development Director Chris Chiesl and Building Inspector Rob Hinds.

OTHER PRESENT: Ray Davis and Jim Zieler.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public wish to speak.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Consider approval of the August 18, 2022, Planning & Zoning Commission minutes.

MOTION

Motion was made by Chairman Ron Cisco to approve the minutes as stated. Motion was second by Commissioner Jill Patterson.

Motion passed 4-0 with Chairman Cisco, Vice Chairman Greer, Commissioner Patterson, and Commissioner Perezchica voting in favor.

2. Open Discussion on General Plan: OPEN SPACES – approval of Open Space Element.

Building Inspector Rob Hinds said the Open Space Elements handout, that everyone received, has standards that we must follow through state statutes. Paragraph one defines what open space is. Paragraph two talks about our town. Paragraph three describes how we would like our city to grow. Paragraph four, a, b, and c are state requirements, we must follow state statutes, because we have over 2500 people in our city.

Let us go through this tonight and if you see any errors or anything that we are forgetting, let us work on them. We are trying to make a clear, precise, and not overwhelming plan. Maybe we would want more or less parks.

Ray Davis commented that the parks that we have are great, more walking, hiking and biking trails would be a good way to improve our parks.

Commissioner Jill Patterson commented that the baseball fields need to be added to the open spaces in the fairground section.

Community Development Director Chris Chiesl commented that they could utilize the Little Colorado River with trails. As you all may know that the Little Colorado River is a U.S. water way. You cannot do anything without a permit, you would have to have permits through the Army Corp. of Engineers. We could do trails along private property with the permission of the property owners.

Springerville made a path along the Little Colorado River that cost millions of dollars. Can we do it? Sure. Making future plans.

Chairman Ron Cisco commented that it would be nice to have trails, but how do we accomplish this?

Building Inspector Rob Hinds commented that the current plan has a trail plan from the Little Colorado River to the Little Reservoir to Patterson Ponds.

Community Development Director Chris Chiesl commented that the commission needs to look at the current general plan and see what did work and what did not work and why. Would you like to see a city-wide multipurpose pathway plan? Is a pathway plan a priority?

Chairman Ron Cisco commented that a path from park to park and from school to school would be an ideal trail. We can reference open spaces in the circulation and circulation in open spaces, like wise with other topics.

MOTION

Motion was made by Chairman Ron Cisco to bring this back to the next meeting and work on approvals. Motion was second by Commissioner Jill Patterson.

Motion passed 5-0 with Chairman Cisco, Vice Chair Greer, Commissioner Patterson, Commissioner Perezchica, and Commissioner Brown voting in favor.

3. Continued Discussion on General Plan CERCULATION Element. MOTION

Motion was made by Chairman Ron Cisco to table this item for the next meeting. Motion was second by Vice Chair Lacy Greer.

Motion passed 5-0 with Chairman Cisco, Vice Chairman Greer, Commissioner Patterson, Commissioner Perezchica, and Commissioner Brown voting in favor.

4. CONCIL LIAISON REPORT

Vice Mayor Joe Greene commented that the Open House for the Rise to the Challenge Job Training facility through the RISE Grant will be tomorrow, April 27th. Please come and see what the program is all about.

Also, it is important to identify each of these areas in the General Plan. It is especially important for our community to grow.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No items were talked about.

• 6. ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Motion was made by Chairman Ron Cisco to adjourn the meeting. Motion was second by Commissioner Jill Patterson.

Motion passed 5-0 with Chairman Cisco, Vice Chairman Greer, Commissioner Patterson, Commissioner Perezchica, and Commissioner Brown voting in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Ron Cisco, Chairman

ATTEST:

Cindy Lee, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the forgoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission held April 26, 2023. I certify that the meeting was duly called, held, and that a quorum was present.

Cindy Lee, City Clerk

*Please note: Approved minutes are not verbatim record of what happened in the City Planning & Zoning Commission meeting, they capture a summary of the meeting as well as all action taken. A recording of the entire meeting is available upon request at the city Clerk office for three months following the meeting.