

CITY OF ST. JOHNS
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
JUNE 28, 2023

The Planning and Zoning Commission regular meeting was duly posted. Chairman Ron Cisco called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. in the City of St. Johns Conference Room.

ROLL CALL: Commissioners: Ron Cisco, Chairman, Commissioners: Ben Brown, Lacy Greer

STAFF PRESENT: Community Development Director, Chris Chisel and Rob Hinds, Building Inspector

PUBLIC PRESENT: Nathan Wengert, Kersten Nielsen

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nathan Wengert noted that trails are needed. Chris Chiesl and Chairman Cisco noted that this will be discussed in the Circulation Element.

AGENDA

1. Consider approval of the June 28, 2023, Planning & Zoning Commission minutes.

MOTION

Motion was made by Chairman Ron Cisco to approve the minutes as stated. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ben Brown.

No discussion

Motion passed 3-0.

2. DISCUSSION ON THE CITY'S GENERAL PLAN

Rob- overview given on what the General Plan is and what the state requires for the General plan. Open Space is required Element to be in every General Plan. He further addressed other elements that are required to be in a General Plan.

Chris- The General Plan is kind of a business plan for cities. It is required by the State that Public needs to participate and give their comments.

Rob-Airport was added to Circulation, rider statistics added to Circulation, locations for trails need to be added to Circulation.

Chris- Circulation can be passed tonight based on the comments in this meeting if a motion is made and voted on. Goals, objectives, and policy will be done by Paul and Chris.

Ron- recapping some ideas discussed in previous PZ meetings. Having trails to connect the schools and to connect to parks. How does the city pay for these ideas? (Rhetorical question)

Nathan- 7th west sidewalk west of middle school going north ends at about 1st St S. The city could continue this sidewalk to Cleveland (SR 180) which is not too far away.

Chris- Circulation is mainly for vehicular traffic. Trails can be addressed here but also in another Element. What priorities to we have balanced with the city budget.

Keirsten- Safety of children walking to school is the issue with the current sidewalks. Connecting the schools with sidewalks should be given a priority. Trails connecting to other trails would be a lower priority.

Ron- Safety should be a priority.

Ben- combine the safety issues such a lighting, sidewalks, trails and others into one paragraph or idea. Then write the goals and objectives for just a safety issue.

Ben- retired folks coming to SJ want to able to walk.

Keirsten- people that are in a poverty situation are forced to walk making sidewalks and trails more important. Main street is very busy with foot traffic because there is a nice sidewalk and lighting. Some connecting busy streets to do not have sidewalk or lighting so many people avoid the areas if they can.

Chris- make connecting schools a priority. Partner with schools with "safe routes to schools".

Nathan- Connection between the sidewalk at the fairgrounds to main street is another need.

Chris- Education center/NPC, 4H would make this a priority.

Ben- only sidewalk close that we currently have is on 13th west, on the east side of the road only.

Chris- both sides should have one.

Ben- I would rather have a different location have the sidewalk since we have one there.

Ron- talking about priorities, and money issues it makes sense to have a different location for a sidewalk, unless money is there for both.

Rob-which Street is the priority..The options are 2nd and 4th. Those would be the options to connect 4th N to Main Street.

Chris- list all streets (13th, 4th, 2nd) Development of the airport and future growth should also direct the priorities of new sidewalk locations.

Ben/ Keirsten- from the high school to main street needs a sidewalk on both sides. There is currently one side covered. There is a lot of foot traffic here. With the addition of Maverik it will not decrease.

Ben- as far as 10-year plan, we need to address 13th and main traffic. Add signage and a crosswalk. There are 3 places that need a crosswalk across main.

Chris-this is out of our control. ADOT controls this road.

Rob- A traffic study was conducted and ADOT determined that we do not need a crosswalk at 13th and main. How will we get a light there if ADOT says we don't need a crosswalk.

Keirsten- a nun was killed crossing main street.

Chris- make a list of concerns to give to ADOT.

Ben- two highways merge where the nun got killed. This should have a stoplight.

Keirsten- I live close to this area and will not let my kids walk to school where the nun got killed. Many parents will not let their kids walk to elementary school because of the safety hazard crossing where the 2 highways merge.

Chris- draft a letter of concerns for ADOT.

(Many concerns were voiced by all. *A letter has been drafted*)

Chris- It would be helpful if the PZ Commissioners gather petitions for all these concerns.

Ben- Potential new resident saw a T-bone vehicle accident because a sign was obstructed by a tree. Told Ben he was not going to move here.

Keirsten- my son was also hit at this location.

Rob-turning Lane at 24th and Main street is needed. Speed limit is 55 and no turn lane.

Rob- locations of trails need to be identified. Discussion and locations added.

Chris- Recreation Element goes into depth on trails. Add verbiage before the explanation on trails. (pg. 33)

Rob- recap- add paragraph before inventory of trails. Add blurb from old plan. After Apache county traffic count, add paragraph on why sidewalks are a priority to connect to schools. Add paragraph on ADOT concerns. Prioritize the goals listed at the end of Circulation.

Chris- in the future if any information charts are added at a descriptive paragraph beforehand.

Ron- add more description on trails in the recreation element. Circulation mention of trails should be on how to get from point A to point B. Combine goals into a concise paragraph.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn meeting made by Ben. Motion 2nd by Ron

Motion passes 4-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

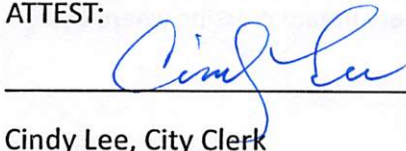


Ron Cisco, Chairman

Date

10/25/2023

ATTEST:



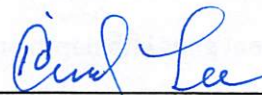
Cindy Lee, City Clerk

Date

10/25/2023

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 June 28, 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 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.