



Approved as submitted at the January 29, 2021 PC Special Meeting.

SAN JUAN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 2021 MEETING

The meeting of the San Juan County Planning Commission was called to order by Chair, Camille Uhlir, at 8:38 a.m. in the County Council hearing room, Legislative Building, 55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, and San Juan Island.

Planning Commission

Members Present:

By Microsoft Teams: Camille Uhlir, Michael Pickett, David Kane, Steve Rubey, Sheila Gaquin, Dale Roundy, and Steve Smith.

Planning Commission

Member Absent:

Nick Knoellinger

Department of Community Development (DCD) Staff

Present:

Present in person: Erika Shook, Director; and Lynda Guernsey, AS II.
By Microsoft Teams: Adam Zack, Planner III.

Administrative Items

Confirm Agenda – No changes to agenda.

Minutes of December 18, 2020

Moved by Michael Pickett, seconded by David Kane, to approve the minutes as submitted. Steve Rubey– yes, Michael Pickett–yes, David Kane – yes, Sheila Gaquin – yes, Dale Roundy – yes, Camille Uhlir – yes, and Steve Smith–abstain. Motion passed with six yes votes and one abstention (Smith).

Election of Officers

Motions were made to nominate for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. As motions are not necessary for nominations they were withdrawn.

Moved by Steve Rubey, seconded by Michael Pickett, to elect Camille Uhlir as Chair. Steve Rubey– yes, Michael Pickett–yes, David Kane – yes, Sheila Gaquin – yes, Dale Roundy – yes, Camille Uhlir – yes, and Steve Smith–yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Camille Uhlir, seconded by Steve Rubey, to elect Michael Pickett as Vice-Chair. Steve Rubey– yes, Michael Pickett–yes, David Kane – yes, Sheila Gaquin – yes, Dale Roundy – yes, Camille Uhlir – yes, and Steve Smith–yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Dale Roundy graciously consented to continue as Secretary which was unanimously agreed upon.

DCD Update – Erika Shook, Director

1. The County Council enacted a moratorium on vacation rentals effective January 13, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. based on the recommendations of the Planning Commission. There will be a workshop held with the County Council on January 25th and a public hearing on February 23rd. The moratorium is in effect for six months.

2. The Shoreline Master Program is close to being approved by the Department of Ecology.
3. A County email address is available for the Planning Commission, please contact Erika if you would like one.
4. All staff documents related to the Comp Plan Update for the last couple of years are now on an updated Comp Plan website page. Adam Zack showed the Planning Commission the new Comp Plan page.

Erika Shook and Adam Zack both responded to questions and comments from the Planning Commission.

Public Access Time – The following spoke:

Kai Sanburn, Community Rights San Juan Islands
Brent Lyles, Executive Director for Friends of the San Juans
Faith Van De Putte, Coordinator for the Agricultural Resource Committee (ARC)
Learner Limbach, Chair of the ARC
John Campbell, Orcas Island
Michael Durland, Deer Harbor Boatworks

Public access time was closed when all that requested to had spoken.

Briefings about the San Juan County Comprehensive Plan 2036 Update Project:

Element B.2, Land Use and Rural, Urban Growth Area Goals and Policies – Adam Zack, Planner III

Adam Zack updated the Planning Commission that the draft document that he was presenting had the comments incorporated from the Friends of the San Juans and the Agricultural Resource Committee.

December 29, 2020 Draft Comprehensive Plan, Section B, Element 2, 2.3 Urban Growth Areas– Page 22, Goal 2, Policies 1. e. and f.

Discussion was held regarding the addition of climate change elements to these items and others throughout the comprehensive plan.

Moved by David Kane, seconded by Camille Uhlir, that the Planning Commission recommend that SJC Council direct SJC Community Development to include a standalone Climate Change section in the comprehensive plan, this section might be based on other Comprehensive Plans that show Climate Leadership. Steve Rubey– no, Michael Pickett–no, David Kane – yes, Sheila Gaquin – no, Dale Roundy – no, Camille Uhlir – no, and Steve Smith–no. Motion failed with one yes vote, six no votes, and zero abstentions.

It was generally agreed in discussion that having a presentation at a meeting, perhaps February's meeting, where climate change and how it is addressed in the comprehensive plan, would be supported by the Planning Commission.

Element B.2, Land Use and Rural, Natural Resource Land Goals and Policies – Adam Zack, Planner

December 29, 2020 Draft Comprehensive Plan, Section B, Element 2, 2.4 Resource Lands – Page 31

Discussion was held about needing more time to review the comments and comments in general before going through the draft.

By Consensus, the Planning Commission would like more time to review the draft with the comments before the next meeting.

By Consensus, the Planning Commission will return to the review of this portion of the draft in a special meeting to be held on Friday, January 29th at 8:30 a.m. The meeting to be held virtually.

Discussion was held regarding the receipt of comments and how that applies to process and meeting scheduling.

Return to Admin Items

Return to Public Access Time

Faith Van De Putte, Coordinator for the Agricultural Resource Committee (ARC)
Brent Lyles, Executive Director for Friends of the San Juans

Public access time was closed when all that requested to had spoken.

Update from Erika Shook

Erika Shook stated that she would bring back some options for comment periods.

Adjournment

Moved by Michael Pickett, seconded Camille Uhlir, and unanimously agreed upon by the Planning Commission to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m. The next meeting of the Planning Commission is a special meeting scheduled for Friday, January 29, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. in the County Council hearing room, Legislative Building, 55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynda Guernsey