

Eastsound Planning and Review Committee Minutes
July 30, 2020
Orcas Center Madrona Room with Public on Zoom
3:00pm to 6:00

In Attendance: Leith Templin, Charles Toxey, Terry Gillespie, Brian Wiese and JoAn Mann

3:00 pm Leith Templin, Chair welcomed Zoom participants and introduced committee members

Members of the public on Zoom, Fred Klein, Toby Cooper, Rick Hughes, Chris Bean-Hearn, Janice Weimeyer, Peggy Rhoads, Leslie Brazeau, Dan Christopherson, John Morris, Clyde Duke, Jan Ehrlichman, Rick Christmas, Leslie Brazeau, Jessie Douglas-Sitz (SJC)

Rick Hughes gave update on Covid and ferry. Explained that the reason the ferries have been late do to the fact that we are still on Winter schedule and it is based on loading times for Winter at 60 % capacity. Talking about several items about vacation rentals. New renewal fee and possibly no new permits until we are in Phase 4, ADU possibly not being allowed for VC. Council passed climate resolution last month to cover power needs for county buildings. Parking regulations for county road ends. No overnight parking. County passed a bond for emergency 911. Allows for communication in emergency situations between fire, and sheriff offices and utilities.

Public Comment

Fred Klein: Talked about streetscapes standards about 30 years ago. He gave a history of the streets in Eastsound and hopes that the designs that were implemented on Main and North Beach will be extended to Prune Alley.

Chris Bean-Hearn: Does not support the planning for Prune Alley and concerned that we are losing the village feel. Ask about how the EPRC makes recommendations and how long it takes to go to the council.

Peggy Rhoads: Noted in winter by Island Market and surrounding area and spoke in favor on lighting. In the winter especially when it is slippery and dark, it is extremely dangerous. Likes the 12-foot pole height.

Clyde Duke: Gave history of Prune Alley process. He spoke as a past EPRC member and Fire Commissioner. Spoke to the night sky lighting proposed as being so much better than what we see on the mainland and does not feel that the people that are negative about the lighting realize the difference. Lighting is important for safety and the storm water and utilities. Suggested that the public needs to get involved the process.

Dan Christopherson: Thanked EPRC, Rick Hughes and Fred K. for their work on the Prune Alley project. Owns a business on Prune Alley, (Wildlife Cycles) with his Vickie. Spoke about the bad condition of the road and the safety on the street in the winter when it is so dark early and that it scares him. Towns have needs for sidewalk and lighting in their commercial core. There is growth happening and Prune Alley and it is not a county lane. It is a main street of the commercial core. Over 70 % is owned by commercial owners and 30% is residential. Dan's personal study. Most people against sidewalks and lighting are not property owners, all the business owners that he has talked with support sidewalks and lighting (dark skies compliant and light poles at intersection). He thinks the property and business owners should have the say not the non-owners and people who live out the Village. He stated that Prune Alley is our street and please don't tell us that we cannot have a reasonably useful and safe street.

Fred K. Talked again about the street standards and feels that they are not being followed especially regarding the easements.

Lee Horswill, Brown Bear Baking. Likes the design after reviewing the 60% plans. Exciting about the fact that this is happening. He lives and operates a business and is all for stormwater, rain gardens, benches for visitors, bike racks

where appropriate, bump outs for planters all those things help create the village aesthetic that we want. Prune Alley needs this, and more angle parking would be nice if possible. Likes that EPRC has chosen the dark skies recommendations. Asked about where he could find the presentation with the light fixtures. Thanked everybody for their hard work on this project.

Leslie Brazeau, might it be possible for motion sensor lighting for intersection? Minimize lighting when not in use. Wanted to know where to go for information about rate of development on the Island.

Fred K again talked about the design he help draw and presented a few years ago however, Leith mentioned to him that some of those properties have since been sold a couple of times and the property owners are unwilling at this time.

Leith closed public comment. She thanked the public for taking the time to be here today and appreciated their concerns for the project. Leith stated that the committee had listen to the public and had met with community members to listen to their ideas and concerns. She had also met with several property owners to hear their ideas and also responded to the emails that had been sent to EPRC's new email address. Eastsoundplanningreview@gmail.com Also, reminding everybody about the FAQ sheet and other documents on the county web site that answer some of the questions/comments which have been posted on social media. In reference to taking the project money and redistributing, it can not be used in that way. Either the grant monies will be lost, or the county road dollars will go to other projects most likely on San Juan or Lopez. Eastsound has street standards so even if this project were to stop when the property owners develop their site, they are required to build curb, gutters and sidewalks. That is why we currently have mismatched sidewalks. So, with this plan we will have continuous and planned sidewalks and crosswalks. Because of the delay and the public's desire to have better internet service the county has been able to plan for new fiber to be laid at the same time as undergrounding, the power, telephone and the new storm water system to benefit Fishing Bay. This way we can control the look and beauty of the street and we also will bring our street up to the new ADA standards.

Video of Prune Alley Street was shared with the members and the public

Prune Alley Discussion with EPRC members

Charles discussed the slides with the options proposed by the county engineers and the designers of the road project. He explained the features of the lightening fixture. Bug ratings, temperature rating and design. Jessie Douglas-Sitz provided some comments and recommended EPRC to recommend a height and style of the fixture and color temperature to SJC.

Terry made a motion to for Option 4 style with BUG rating with 1 0 1 or better, Bronze in color, and 12-14 feet high and night sky compliant (3000 degrees or less)

Brian seconded and motion carried

Brian made a comment to the public about the new hotel project and that the hearing examiners hearing would be on August 26th.

Charles made a motion to send letter to CDC and Rick Hughes pointing out questions we have concerning the building/hotel project on Main Street. Which are that any building in Village Commercial larger than 5,000 square feet, including driveways cannot take up more than 65% of the lot and that this project does not have adequate parking. We might also have more comments when we received the permit. Seconded by Brian and motion carried

PERMIT REVIEW

No comments or concerns on proposed permits presented

Clyde's comments about process of EPRC and the fact that there used to be a form for permit review
Rick wants us to look at the Vacation Rental letter we sent to council and see if we want to update it.

Discussion continued about the parking on Prune Alley and seeing if there is a way to work with the new owners to the North and South of the Fern Street lot owned by the County. Talked about incentives for the property owners so we can get some angle parking. Also, that since this project is to be done in thirds so we still have time to work on the properties from Fern to Rose and Rose to High School Road. Rick would like us to approved some of the amenities like the ones Jessie has such as the Fern Street stamp on Fern and Rose stamp on Rose Street and another for High School. Color of sidewalk, color of bricks in intersection

Charles brought up about the bright yellow bricks on Haven Rd and asks if they can be changed out to the red brick. Discussion about trees in front of the Barnacle and next lot site. The one south on Chris Bean-Hearns lot is one of the original Prune Trees and the two in front of the Barnacle were planted much later. Rick is supportive of trying to save the trees if possible. Rick want us to write up something and forward to him.

Leith has sent out and is trying to connect with landscapers about a new list of street trees.

Rick asked us for help in finding someone to fill the two vacant seats on the Planning Commission.

Leith asked about continuing projects and what we need to be working on.

Comp Plan/SubArea Plan change in Sub Area sooner is better.

Look at expansion requests such as airport corner NB and Mt. Baker

Weigh in on road ends within UGA such as NB and Madrona Point should have a parking requirement that you cannot leave a vehicle after 10pm

Charles suggested we develop an excel sheet for reviewing permits and suggestions about changes to Sub Area and Comprehensive Plan

Rick asked for a work list that we would like to see happen.

Brian ask report from staff on land use capacity so we can make a decision on UGA.

Vacation Rental UGA allows needs to be looked out. Outright use maybe a public process reconsider. Look at our old comments sent to Rick.Sept/Oct??????

Art Committee and Prune Alley Committee and Jessie is still working with property owners for more right a way for parking.

Adjourned at 6:12

Minutes submitted by Leith Templin

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 1, 2020