

CITY OF SEATAC
PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes of March 7, 2017
Regular Meeting

Members present: Roxie Chapin, Tom Dantzler, Pam Pollock, Robert Scully, Jim Todd
Members absent: None
Staff present: Jeff Robinson, Acting CED Director; Steve Pilcher, Planning Manager; Al Torrico, Senior Planner

1. Call to Order

Chair Todd called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Earl Gipson, SeaTac resident, spoke in favor of expanding the size of the Planning Commission to seven (7) members.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017 regular meeting as written. **Passed 4-0.**

4. Election of Officers

Jim Todd was nominated to serve as Chair; there were no other nominations. **Passed 4-0.**
Pam Pollock was nominated to serve as Vice-Chair; there were no other nominations. **Passed 4-0.**

5. Presentation on Autonomous Vehicles

Steve Marshall and John Niles of CATES (Center for Advanced Transportation and Energy Solutions) briefed the Commission on the changing technology and the coming advent on autonomous vehicles. They are proposing that the City hire their firm for a 90-day contract to explore opportunities for launching autonomous vehicle services within the city. They will be looking for both federal and private funding sources.

Mr. Marshall and Mr. Niles provided an example of “Ollie Transport”, a driverless van-size, electric vehicle that could be used to transport individuals from the airport to hotels, from park’n’ride lots to the airport, etc. The concept is to use SeaTac as a test model for how this new technology can be fit into a community and be economically viable.

The Commission asked numerous questions and indicated it was generally supportive of the City studying the issue further, as proposed.

6. Worksession on S. 154th Station Area regulations

Senior Planner Al Torrico presented staff’s recommended code revisions regarding open space standards.

Mr. Torrico mentioned that staff has met with City of Tukwila staff to discuss their planning process for the TIB area. He noted their project likely won’t be completed until early 2018. Their consultants noted there is currently limited demand for additional commercial development in this area (no more than 40,000 sq. ft. in total).

Mr. Torrico then reviewed the staff’s recommended approach to modifying the existing open space standards. For the most part, staff is suggesting adopting language very similar to what was established in the Angle Lake District regulations.

In discussing the proposed code language, the Commission asked that staff provide a clear definition of the difference between public and private open space. Otherwise, the Commission concurred with the proposed changes.

7. Comprehensive Plan process

Planning Manager Steve Pilcher provided a brief overview of the schedule for considering Comprehensive Plan amendments this year. The final date on which amendments may be initiated will be April 28th. He also reviewed the proposed sorting criteria for items placed on the preliminary docket and then the decision criteria under which final docket proposals will be evaluated.

8. CED Director’s Report

Acting CED Director Jeff Robinson provided information regarding an upcoming community meeting on March 29 regarding the new park being developed along Angle Lake, east of the new Residence Inn. He also noted that the City Council will be having a Town Hall meeting on April 26.

Mr. Pilcher reminded the Commission on an upcoming “Planning Short Course” training opportunity that will be held at the City of Kent on March 30th.

9. Adjournment

Moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

