

**Town of Duluth
Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Planning Director, Sue Lawson.

Present: Wayne Dahlberg, Jerry Hauge, Dave Edblom and Liz Strohmayer.

Absent: Larry Zanko.

Also present: Sue Lawson, Planning Director and Mike Kahl, Town Board liaison to the Planning Commission.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The March minutes were approved as presented.

First was a call for nominations for election of officers for the Commission. Liz volunteered to be Chair. Dave seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Dave nominated Wayne to be Vice Chair. Liz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

None.

Director's Report

Sue said that 11 people attended the Comprehensive Land Use Plan Steering Group's April 18 open house for the draft core community values the steering group developed to be used in revising the CLUP. Four people provided comments. There were a few comments regarding commercial areas in the Town, mostly wanting to limit commercial, along with a couple other comments not related to the draft values. There were two comments that specifically addressed the draft core values. One commenter felt that valuing the "innate character" of the Township was too open to interpretation to be useful.

The CSG met on Tuesday to consider public input and finalize the core values. There was a discussion about sense of place. It was decided that all of the values considered together create a sense of place, so the statement "We value the intrinsic character of our Township" was deleted. There was a long discussion on commercial in the Town, especially local products. It was decided to add the following value: "We value access to local goods and services within the Township." The phrase "dark skies" was clarified to "dark night skies."

Sue said that the June CSG meeting will be a review of the report on activity in the Township since the 2002 CLUP that she, Clint and Beth have been working on. The data will help identify planning questions relevant to the revision of the CLUP. She said the new Star Grant from the Coastal Program for \$10,000 has been recommended for approval. That grant would start in September. At that point, goals and policies will be developed to reflect the core values. The goal is to have a draft of the new CLUP by January or February.

There will be another opportunity for the public to comment on the core values at the regular Commission meeting on May 23 and at the regular Town Board meeting in June. The core values will be forwarded to the Town Board for their consent that the values be used in the development of the new CLUP.

Sue introduced Mike Kahl, one of the two new Town Board Supervisors and new liaison to the Commission.

Mike said that the Board is in the process of evaluating the applicants for the vacant Planning Commission seats. They will be interviewing before their meeting on May 9th.

Sue said that the decision regarding the Bille's variance, has been appealed to the Minnesota Supreme Court.

Wayne noticed a barn going up on a property near his and asked if a permit had been obtained for it. Beth looked it up and there was a permit pulled for it at end of the year last year.

There were no concerns from the audience.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55.