

Minutes
City of Gig Harbor Planning Commission
Open House & Public Hearing
Gig Harbor Civic Center
Thursday, August 7, 2014

5:00 p.m. - Call to order, roll call

Commissioners Present: Rick Gagliano, Bill Coughlin, Jim Pasin, Reid Ekberg, Craig Baldwin and Spencer Hutchins

Staff Present: Jennifer Kester, Lindsey Sehmel, Christian Shope, Diane McBane

5:00 p.m. – Staff Presentation

1. **Land Use and Housing Element Updates** – Senior Planner Lindsey Sehmel presented the detailed changes to the Land Use and Housing Element of the Comprehensive Plan in response to requirements from the Growth Management Act.
2. **City Rezone** – Planning Intern Christian Shope presented the findings and proposal to rezone seven parcels of City-owned property for consistency with existing land use.

5:30 p.m. – Open House – There were map and visual displays for the public to study and an opportunity for the citizens to ask Commissioners and Staff questions.

6:00 p.m. - Public Hearing

Public Hearing on Land Use and Housing Element

Jeni Woock, 3412 Lewis St., Gig Harbor – Ms. Woock stated that she had submitted written comments and asked that the commission consider eliminating the density requirements that ruin neighborhoods. She asked for a process that is easy to understand and predictable and stated that citizens want to know who will be developing, how many and how close.

Charlotte Gerlof, 7712 73rd St NW, Gig Harbor

Ms. Gerlof encouraged the Planning Commission to keep the flavor of our town as these higher density buildings will change our downtown.

Rob Wenman, 8416 131st St NW, Gig Harbor

Mr. Wenman wondered why there hadn't been a presentation. Chairman Pasin informed him that there had been a 30-40 minute presentation prior to the public hearing. Mr. Wenman asked the commission to stay focused on the character of Gig Harbor. He felt that there was plenty of economic development. Mr. Wenman emphasized the need to accommodate the fishing heritage and the working waterfront. He talked about the need for parking and to protect public spaces. He stated that he wasn't sure how centers of local importance relate to transportation improvements. He stated that there are areas away from the waterfront that are more appropriate for economic development.

Mr. Pasin closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

Public Hearing on City Rezone

Mr. Pasin opened the public hearing at 6:11 p.m. There being no public comments the public hearing was closed at 6:12 p.m.

Deliberation

Staff noted that there are no proposed changes to the waterfront land use designation or it's densities.

Discussion was held on the airport designation and it's impact on the City of Gig Harbor.

MOTION: Move to accept the proposed Housing Element language. Ekberg/Baldwin. The motion passed with Commissioners Coughlin and Gagliano opposed.

MOTION: Move to accept the proposed Land Use Element language. Ekberg/Gagliano – Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Move to accept the City Owned Property Rezone proposal - Gagliano/Coughlin – Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Discussion of upcoming meetings – August 21, 2014
The September 4th meeting is cancelled.

Adjournment

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 6:22 p.m. Gagliano/Coughlin – Motion passed