

**CITY OF MONROE  
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
Monday, July 27, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Monroe Planning Commission was held on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom online meeting platform.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Tuttle called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Permit Supervisor Kim Shaw called the roll.

**Commissioners Present:** Chair Tuttle, Vice-Chair Bull, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Stanger, and Commissioner Nugent.

**Commissioners Absent:** Commissioner Jensen

**Staff Present:** Community Development Director Ben Swanson, City Administrator Deborah Knight, Principal Planner Shana Restall and Permit Supervisor Kim Shaw.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

June 22, 2020

- Commissioner Bull moved to approve the meeting minutes of June 22, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller. Motion carried 6-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

NONE

**PRESENTATION**

**1. Wayfinding Program**

City Administrator Deborah Knight

- Scope of work with design concepts for gateway signs. Key entry points to the city are: US2 / West Main St. / East Main St. / SR203.
- On line survey was provided to community members for input on what they would like to see for future signs as well as logo, although that may be at a later date.
- Design concepts were shown with the final design choice presented to the commissioners.
- Presented were some recommendations and concepts for the wayfinding signs. Feedback from the commissioners in attendance was that the signs be consistent in color and design.
- Park signs were also being developed and will follow the similar design while working with the Park Board.
- Historic Downtown Gateway signs have been preliminarily designed with various designs still in for review.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Temporary Homeless Encampments Code Amendments**

Principal Planner Shana Restall

- There were three areas of concern that several of the religious organizations had when city representatives met with them to look over the proposed ordinance. Those concerns were:
  - a) Indoor overnight shelters
  - b) Temporary small houses on-site
  - c) Community meetings required

The commissioners addressed these proposed changes to the ordinance with broad feedback.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

NONE

Chair Tuttle asked for a motion to extend the meeting beyond 9:00. Commissioner Stanger made a motion to extend the regular meeting beyond 9:00. Seconded by Commissioner Fisher. Motion carried 6/0.

## **DISCUSSION BY COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF**

Community Development Director Swanson:

- Inquired with the commissioners on their preferences to continue meetings via the Zoom virtual platform, go back to in-person or possibly a hybrid of both for future meetings when the state requirements are lifted. The consensus at this point among the commissioners was to continue with the virtual meetings.
- Updated the commissioners regarding the Monroe School District Comprehensive Plan Rezone amendment and that will be coming back to the commissioners in two future meetings.
- Brief summary of current staff work load and job duty changes within the Community Development Department.
- Coastal Farm & Ranch still moving along with the construction process.

Commissioner Bull responded to Director Swanson's question on the house market sales stating that mortgage rates are at a record low which is driving home purchases as well as commuters moving to the suburbs from the city.

Commissioner Miller expressed her concerns about going back to in-person meetings. EDAB is back to two meetings a month and recently made some recommendations, working through the Wayfinding, etc.

Commissioner Stanger provided an update regarding the Parks Board meeting stating that Director Farrell shared that the parks are very busy.

Chair Tuttle shared that with the Governor's recent updates to the restrictions for bars and restaurants will affect a lot of Monroe businesses.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Tuttle adjourned the meeting at 9:10pm.



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Bridgette Tuttle  
*Chair*



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Kim Shaw  
*Permit Supervisor*

