

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MARCH 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Baker at 7:00 PM

Roll call was taken: **Present: Gardner, Rau, Vogt, Lutz, Childers and Baker.**
Absent: Hicks

Chairman Baker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the February 8, 2016 meeting. A motion was made by Gardner and seconded by Lutz to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

The Chairman asked if there were any citizens to address the Planning Commission. There were none.

The Chairman also asked if there were any corrections or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Chairman asked if there was any old business. There was none.

PETITIONS:

The Chairman asked if there were any Petitions. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion on Comprehensive Plan with Todd Streiler of Streiler Planning

Mr. Todd Streiler mentioned that this evening he would like to review a proposed Citizen Survey and appraise the SWOT's (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) for the city. A proposed survey was supplied to the Planning Commission. Mr. Gardner mentioned that he questioned the need for "city parks" in the survey. The parks within the City are maintained and operated by a Park Board that is not affiliated with the City of Waterloo. The Zoning Administrator added that the Park Board does not want additional green space to maintain. Mr. Streiler stated that parks are a valuable contribution to the survey, and he cannot envision a Comprehensive Plan that does not include parks. It was decided that in questions which referenced parks the term "*local*" parks versus "*city*" parks would be used. Recreation is typically supplied by YMCA, Waterloo Sports Associations and Western Egyptian. The survey questions were then reviewed in depth for accuracy and clarity. It was suggested that a qualifier question be included for clarification.

Section 1: Issues Facing the City of Waterloo over the next 10-20 years

- (B) Change "*Underperforming Commercial Areas*" to "*Underperforming Commercial Areas Outside of Downtown*".
- (E) Change "*Property Maintenance*" to "*Property Maintenance and Curb Appeal*".
- (I) Change "*Senior Housing and Transportation Needs*" to "*Senior Housing Needs*".
- (O) Change "*Subsidized Housing*" to "*More Subsidized Housing*".

Section 2: Agree/Disagree General Questions - No change

Section 3: Waterloo's Strengths

- Change title from "*Waterloo's Strengths*" to "*Waterloo's Assets*".

Section 4: Waterloo's Strengths - written responses – no change

Section 5: Ranking & Quality of Public Services

- (I) Change "*Yard Waste Collection*" to "*Yard Waste Site*".
- Add "*Utilities*" to the public services

Section 6: Yes/No Specific Issue Questions

- (D) Change "*I would support a tax or bond to fund park/rec improvements*" to "*I would support a tax or bond to fund sidewalks and bike improvements*".
- Add question "*I would support a tax or bond for a swimming pool*".
- (J) Remove the inquiry from the survey, but save the question for a workshop.

Section 7: Surveyor Background Information – no change

Section 8: Additional Information – no change

There was a short discussion on adding a question regarding the need for solar power. It was determined to leave a solar power question off the survey.

Mr. Streiler requested a list of individuals for the public engagement portion of the Comprehensive Plan. This group will be interviewed to hear their opinions and thoughts regarding the City's issues and strengths. These individuals should have various backgrounds. Mr. Streiler would like to have the first public workshop at the end of April.

COMMENTS:

The Chairman asked if there were any comments. There was none.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM was made by Gardner and seconded by Vogt.
Motion carried.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mechelle Childers.