



THE CITY OF WHITTIER

Gateway to Western Prince William Sound

P.O. Box 608 • Whittier, Alaska 99693 • (907) 427-2327 • Fax (907) 472-2404

**PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 05, 2016
Homeowners' Lounge, Begich Towers Building**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Charlene Arneson called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Commission members present: Charlene Arneson, Terry Bender, Ed Hedges, Jean Swingle and Dyanna Pratt

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Naelene Matsumiya, Receptionist
Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

PUBLIC PRESENT

Dave Dickason

3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Terry Bender made a motion to change heading of the Agenda from Special Meeting to Regular Meeting.

SECOND: Dyanna

VOTE: Unanimous

DISCUSSION: None

MOTION: Terry Bender made a motion to approve the October 5, 2016 Meeting Agenda as amended.

SECOND: Dyanna

VOTE: Unanimous

DISCUSSION: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Terry Bender made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2016 with amendments.

SECOND: Dyanna

VOTE: Unanimous

DISCUSSION: The motion to rename Smitty's Cove to 'Smitty's Cove Marine Park' on the second page, third paragraph (under New Business) was wrongfully documented as failed. It should state that the motion passed (unanimously).

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Charlene Arneson stated that the city has to follow the same ordinance for all projects now and in the future for when we change an official map. She explained that when changing an official map we must write up a letter or an ordinance recommendation so that the map reflects the changes and then the ordinance is taken to the City Council for approval. There was discussion regarding adding administrative and related costs to the rezoning application. Dyanna suggested adding a \$30 an hour administrative time with a minimum of three hours fee. Charlene and Terry strongly agreed. There was a conversation among committee members about postage and postage fee.

MOTION: Terry Bender made a motion to recommend changes to WMC 17.20.070 which addresses the cost of the administrative fees from \$20.00 to \$30.00 a minimum of 3 hours for all additional cost and fees.

SECOND: Dyanna

VOTE: unanimous

DISCUSSION: None

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Open Space Zoning

Charlene Arneson talked more about the process before the hearing and the steps the City has to take before the hearing takes place. She mentioned looking into the code for the definition of "Open Space" because it has its own definition and said that nothing can be done without the approval from the city. She continued to list the un-zoned spaces and talked about how it is important that we lay out these areas in our ordinance so people are aware that these lands are not public spaces. She went on to say this applied to our tidelands as well because our tidelands are not zoned.

MOTION: Terry Bender made a motion to move Open Space Zoning and Tidelands down to Non-Action Business until such time that they are ready to be acted upon.

SECOND: Dyanna

VOTE: unanimous

DISCUSSION: None

B. Tidelands

Discussed earlier in Open Space Zoning.

7. NON-ACTION BUSINESS

A. Tank Farm

Nothing to report.

B. Land Trades with Alaska Railroad

Nothing to report.

C. Hazard Mitigation Plan

Short discussion about updating the plan. Ed Hedges announced that Whittier now has an Emergency Alert System over cable TV.

D. Smitty's Cove Park

Charlene Arneson talked about Smitty's Cove being an official park in the code for as long as she could remember. She mentioned the updating of the ordinance to reflect "No Docks" and to show what is permitted and what is not. She added the city is very concerned that people want to build docks at Smitty's Cove. Jean Swingle suggested that the area be policed because she has witnessed people launching their personal boats into the waters at Smitty's Cove. Charlene reassured that once everything is in place, the harbor and the police department could begin fining violators.

E. Whittier Historic Railroad Plaza

Nothing to report.

F. CVP Fund Projects

Nothing to report.

G. Shotgun Cove Land

Nothing to report.

H. Street Addresses

Nothing to report. Charlene directed Naelene to remove this topic from future agendas.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Dickason presented his idea for a park and illustrated his plans on the whiteboard of the proposed park he and Victor Shen are planning to build. He laid out the perimeter of the park within the Open Space land to show scale of how big the park may possibly be. They plan to lay out planks for a new hiking trail that will intersect with the Horesetail Falls trail. He also mentioned installing pavilions/restrooms around the park a platform at the end of the trail where visitors will have a view of the waterfall.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS

11. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

12. NEXT MEETING ATTENDANCE PLANS: November 2, 2016

MOTION: Terry Bender made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Ed Hedges


VOTE: unanimous

13. **ADJOURNMENT:** Charlene Arneson adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.

ATTEST:



Naelene Matsuniya
Office Assistant



Charlene Arneson
Commission Chairperson