CITY OF PULLMAN PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes September 22, 2010

The City of Pullman Planning Commission held a regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, in Council Chambers, City Hall, 325 SE Paradise, Pullman, Washington with Chair Stephen Garl presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present: Anderson, Crow, Garl, Gibney, Alred, Shannon, Wendle

> Bergstedt, Paulson Excused: Staff: Dickinson, Emerson

GARL Called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and called roll.

MOTION Shannon moved to accept the minutes of August 25, 2010 Regular Meeting as prepared by Staff. Second by Crow and passed

unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Conduct simultaneous public hearings to review and recommend action on a proposal submitted by Jon Booker, Willo Street, and Scott Finch to amend the Comprehensive Plan Map designation from Commercial to Low Density Residential and revise the zoning classification from C3 General Commercial to R2 Low Density Multi-Family Residential for a parcel of land approximately 5.1 acres in size located between NW Harold Drive and Old

Garl read the rules of procedure, qualified Commission members, and asked for the Staff Report.

Dickinson stated that the applicants, Jon Booker, Willo Street, and Scott Finch want to amend the zoning classification from C3 to R2 because commercial development of the site is not feasible and they are unable to obtain conventional financing for residential improvements on their property. After careful review of this proposal, staff has come to the conclusion that the applicants' request should not be approved because it would invite permanent land use conflicts for the subject property that is surrounded by commercial zoning.

Entered into the record Staff Report No. 10-11, with Attachments A-G, as Exhibit No. 1.

GARL

Wawawai Road on Sunnyside Hill.

Opened the public portion of the meeting.

Jon Booker 105 NW Old Wawawai Road Pullman, WA 99163

Stated that he is in favor of the proposed zone change. His house has been on the property since 1963. He has had no issues with Pullman Disposal as a neighbor and is currently working with them on improving nearby land. Stated he is pursuing ownership of the property to the south, and the owner of a multi-family residential development to the east has expressed interest in a rezone of his land from C3 to residential. Adding these properties to the subject parcel in a larger residential rezone would result in a finger of residential zoning adjacent to a commercial district rather than an island of residential zoning. Provided a map showing the adjacent properties about which he spoke.

DICKINSON

Entered into the record a location and zoning map of subject property with adjacent properties marked, submitted by Jon Booker, as Exhibit No. 2.

Scott Finch 150 NW Harold Pullman, WA 99163 Stated that he is a proponent. Questioned how much of the Zone Change Application would have to be re-submitted to include the land that is now for sale. Has owned his property for 5 to 6 years. The house was moved from WSU in 1963. Stated that he has buffer zones with the surrounding businesses and provided photos. The commercial properties around his property have been no problem. He did not realize the property was zoned C3 until after it was purchased and he tried to get financing from a bank.

DICKINSON

Entered into the record photos of subject area, submitted by Scott Finch as Exhibit Nos. 3a, 3b, and 3c.

Willo Street 105 NW Old Wawawai Road Pullman, WA 99163 Provided a map of Felsted Storage Short Plat No. 2 and Frank Street Short Plat. Stated that she is concerned with the amount of commercially zoned property adjacent to Sunnyside Park. Feels that this proposal would provide a better buffer to the surrounding properties. She has lived in the house since 1963.

DICKINSON

Entered into the record the map of Felsted Storage Short Plat No. 2 and Frank Street Short Plat, submitted by Willo Street, as Exhibit No. 4.

George Kunkel 315 NW Dillon Pullman, WA 99163 Stated that he is speaking on behalf of Pullman Mini Storage. He handed out photos of the subject property area. He is concerned about the proposed zone change as a commercial property owner. He has received complaints from residential property owners about noise in the past. Stated that Harold and Effie Drives are not wide enough to accommodate commercial truck traffic when there are vehicles parked on the streets by residents in the area. Recommends the C3 zoning be retained to prevent future conflict.

DICKINSON

Entered into the record photos of subject property area, submitted by George Kunkel, as Exhibit Nos. 5a - 5i.

GARL

Called for neutral parties; no response.

Called for proponents.

Scott Finch 150 NW Harold Pullman, WA 99163

Stated that truck traffic is light and the noise issue has not been a problem for him. He is the only house on Harold and Effie Drive. His driveway will hold six cars, so street parking is not an issue for his residence.

Jon Booker 105 NW Old Wawawai Road Pullman, WA 99163

In response to a Planning Commission question, he stated that an R2 zone change has been suggested instead of an R1 zone change because the property to the south of the subject property is already R2.

GARL Called for opponents; no response.

Closed public input.

DISCUSSION Gibney stated that the property was pre-zoned by the city in 1987 to C3 prior to annexation.

> Shannon stated that he is resistant to re-zoning the subject property to R2.

> Anderson stated that this is a difficult decision, but the subject property should stay C3.

> Alred stated that she is disinclined to reduce the size of the existing C3 zone.

> Wendle stated that even though there is no conflict now between the property owners of the houses and the commercial developments, it does not mean that it will always stay that way.

> Garl stated that he feels it should stay C3. If the Zone Change Application was to come back with the additional land added, there would be no pre-judgment.

> Anderson moved to accept Findings of Facts Nos. 1-16 for Resolution No. PC-2010-7 as prepared by staff. Seconded by Crow and passed unanimously.

> Anderson moved to add as Finding of Fact No. 13 language from the applicants' proposed findings related to nonconforming regulations and their inability to obtain financing for residential improvements, and adjust other Finding of Fact numbers accordingly. Seconded by Shannon and passed unanimously.

MOTION

MOTION

MOTION Anderson moved to add as Finding of Fact No. 18 language from the

applicants' findings regarding the suitability of the subject property for

residential uses. Seconded by Shannon and passed unanimously.

Suggested that draft conclusion No. 7 should state "prezone" rather than ANDERSON

"zoning."

MOTION Shannon moved to accept staff's draft Conclusion Nos. 1-9 for

Resolution No. PC-2010-7 as amended by Anderson. Seconded by

Crow and passed unanimously.

Wendle moved that the proposed Comprehensive Plan Map designation **MOTION**

> amendment be forwarded to the City Council with a recommendation for denial. Seconded by Crow and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

MOTION Gibney moved to accept Finding of Fact Nos. 1-18 for Resolution No.

> PC-2010-8 as prepared by staff and revised by the Commission, for resolution No. PC-2010-7. Seconded by Crow and passed unanimously.

Shannon moved to accept Conclusion Nos. 1-9 for Resolution No. PC-**MOTION**

2010-8 as prepared by staff, with the amendment to No. 7 suggested by

Anderson. Seconded by Crow and passed unanimously.

Wendle moved that the proposed zoning classification revision be **MOTION**

forwarded to the City Council with a recommendation for denial.

Seconded by Crow and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Conduct a discussion regarding the formulation of draft design standards for the College Hill Core neighborhood.

Dickinson stated that at the meeting of July 28, 2010, the Commission conducted a public discussion about potential objectives for the design review standards proposed for the College Hill Core. From that meeting staff has generated a series of questions to assist the Commission in providing direction regarding the formulation of the design standards.

DISCUSSION Question No. 1: What problems are we trying to solve?

> Gibney – Design standards will not properly address property maintenance or vandalism. The design standards should also be for city

owned buildings.

Anderson – Design standards cannot regulate what is attractive or

unattractive on a structure.

Question No. 2: What purposes will design standards serve?

Gibney and Anderson - Design standards should enhance land use

compatibility.

Alred, Shannon and Crow – Design standards should preserve the historic integrity of the neighborhood; improve the appearance of the area; and enhance the land use compatibility.

Question No. 3: What aspects of the built environment should be addressed?

Shannon – Stated that he feels it is too early in the process to address this now.

Gibney – Stated if the word "should" was changed to "could," then it would be appropriate to address all aspects.

Question No. 4: To What types of development should design standards apply?

The Commission agreed that design standards should apply to single family homes, duplexes, multi-family residences, Greek houses, churches, and businesses.

Question No. 5: What property owner actions should trigger design review?

The Commission agreed that this question should be left to staff.

Question No. 6: Should different parts of College Hill have different standards?

Garl – Maybe be left as an open question until the process of creating the draft standards takes shape.

Crow – Maybe have the Certified Local Government (CLG) ad hoc committee help because they could see the whole picture.

Question No. 7: Which entity should administer the standards?

Garl, Anderson, and Crow – All agreed that a committee should administer the design standards.

Gibney – Some simple issues could be handled just by staff.

Question No. 8: How should design standards be coordinated with CLG Standards?

Garl – Possible subset meeting with CLG ad hoc committee and the Planning Commission.

Opened the discussion up to the public.

Alex Hammond 1110 NE Indiana Pullman, WA 99163

GARL

Pointed out a few points in the Ellensburg Design Standards that would work in Pullman and were worded well, including Page 1, No. 3 and Page 2, No. 6.

Allison Munch-Rotolo 635 NE Illinois Pullman, WA 99163	Stated that the Certified Local Government program will likely not be an effective tool for preservation of the Historic District of the College Hill Core because it may be difficult to obtain the required property owner consent to participate in the program. Promoted the use of the Ellensburg Design Standards in the city's research because they did a good job of identifying separate standards for historic and non-historic properties.
Anita Hornback 405 NW North Pullman, WA 99163	Stated that she is on the CLG ad hoc committee and does not feel design standards are an appropriate task for the group.
Eileen Macoll	Stated that inclusion of single family homes in design standards is rare. Also, design standards can improve safety.
GARL	Closed the public comment portion.
UPCOMING MEETINGS	October 6, 2010: Gibney will not be available. No other Commissioners in attendance expressed any concerns.
	October 27, 2010: No Commissioners in attendance expressed any concerns.
	November 17, 2010: No Commissioners in attendance expressed any concerns.
ADJOURNMENT	Crow moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Shannon and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 pm.
ATTEST:	
Chair	Planning Director

Secretary