

Village of Wimberley
City Hall, 12111 Ranch Road 12, Ste. 114
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Minutes of Joint Meeting Between City Council and the
Comprehensive Plan Review Commission
April 5, 2007, 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Tom Haley

Council Members Present: Mayor Haley and Councilmembers Bob Flocke, Terrie Bursiel, Marilee Wood, and Curt Busk.

Comprehensive Plan Review Commissioners Present: Frank Austin, John Hyink, Lewis Smith, Jean Ross, Dick Larson, and Bert Ray. Commissioner Steve Klepfer arrived at 5:34 p.m.

Staff Present: Don Ferguson and Travis Huff

Discussion: Mayor Haley opened up the discussion by stating that the newly elected commissioners needed to begin to create dialogue between themselves and members of the community. He stated that the Commission needs to elect officers, set up a regular meeting time, and begin the process of reviewing the comprehensive plan.

Councilmember Busk then spoke to the commission stating that the document was created five years ago and was created as a living document and it requires a complete review every five years. He states that he was part of the review process of the original document and that they wanted to make sure that the document evolved as the city grew. To figure out how this growth occurred the group went out and asked the citizens their opinions and gathered their input. He states that this is an intense undertaking and should take between 1 and 2 years. He states there a variety of stakeholders that these commissioners will need to meet with and gain input from.

Councilmember Flocke then spoke to the commission stating that he agreed with what councilmember Busk said. He also stated much thought and public input went into the original document. He states it is possible they will come back with no recommendations for change or just minor "tweaking". He also states that he is in favor of holding multiple forums, and suggested that commissioners also discuss this issue with people in their daily dealings to gain information and a broader perspective. He states that it is extremely important to gain as much input as possible. He states it is important to talk to the people in a variety of settings and to not expect them to just come to the commission.

Councilmember Wood then asks the commission to look at page 15 section E of their document. This section discusses how the plan will be kept current. She states that she believes this is their charge/mission. She states that there have been two surveys one happened about the time the plan was done and one was conducted last year. She states that the council may conduct a third

survey, but will need to think about how extensive this input will be. Input is important. She states that things have changes like under the parks and recreation. We have acquired two parks since the goals and objective were originally established. Some of the prior goals have been accomplished and commissioners should keep this in mind. She believes that with hard work and determination the review can be completed in 6 months to 1 year.

Councilmember Brusiel stated that 6 months is a little short to do a good service and get enough people together for input. She states that forums will be difficult and that perhaps commissioners should focus on people in their subdivisions. Instead of having a large forum of people a smaller group may be easier to get together and manage.

The Mayor then stated he feels that the commission needs to decide how they want to conduct the meetings. He states from a personal standpoint he would like to have in their study and review a consideration of the planning areas. He does not believe that our planning areas are right. He believes commercial needs to be on the corridors coming in to Wimberley. He asks for this to be reviewed and input on this issue gathered from citizens.

Councilmember Flocke states that this review is extremely important because this document is the "grandfather" of all strategic planning that happens in Wimberley. All transportation planning, land use planning, and economic development is in line with the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Brusiel ask the commission to find out if citizens want the corridors to have commercial and if not then where.

Councilmember Flocke then stated that in the last survey there was a large portion of citizens who seemed to not understand or be against a mixed-use policy which is what the Village currently uses.

Councilmember Wood stated that the Transportation Advisory Board has created new plans and that they should give a presentation to the Comprehensive Plan Review Commission to show what those changes are.

Commissioner Hyink spoke and stated he felt all boards and commissions needed to be part of the input process. He states that it is hard to arrange times to make meetings successful. He states that at these meetings the man on the street is not familiar with some of the vocabulary used in the Comprehensive Plan and therefore commissioners need to phrase discussions in such a way that all citizens understand the issues and can give accurate input. He believes that the commission does not need to "reinvent the wheel" but rather to go back and see where they should be tweaking or adjusting to make a better fit for the community.

Commissioner Smith spoke and stated that he felt the methodology is difficult and unclear. He stated that it will be difficult to get a large group of people together. He states that in the Comprehensive Plan there are 9 major categories each of which contains subcategories. He did not understand if the commission ahead of time needed to make some decisions as to what

areas/categories needed to be discussed lightly or in greater detail. He stated that they need to find a way to make data collection the most efficient and accurate as it can be.

Commissioner Klepfer stated that he believed a review of how the document came to be is important. He states if you look at the two surveys there is not much difference between the two. The sections where there has been a significant change will be the ones to focus on first. This document is supposed to include a series of Master Plans for specific areas. He states he is honored to be able to look at this document again.

Commissioner Austin spoke and stated that there is an advantage with this commission because most if not all had some hand in the origination of the Comprehensive Plan. He states he encourages everyone to work for the benefit of the community and to keep it as non-political as possible. He suggested that the commission set up the first meeting for the beginning of next week. Commissioner Austin suggested a temporary meeting time of 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday the 10th.

Commissioner Ross asked if the plan has been reviewed annually, and Councilmember Busk answered that it had.

Commissioner Ray stated he was honored to be part of the committee. He stated he worked on the original Comprehensive Plan, but will keep an open mind and try to think ahead on what this document should be for the community. One of the original goals was to create a useful document, one that would not gather dust on the shelf.

Councilmember Wood stated that she hoped that this review of the Comprehensive Plan will get another recognition from the American Planning Association.

Councilmember Busk move to adjourn the meeting. Council member Brusiel seconded the motion. Motion passes on a vote of (4-0).

Adjournment: The joint meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Recorded by Travis Huff