



## TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE

### PLANNING COMMISSION

#### MINUTES

February 24, 2022

Remote Meeting Via Zoom

**Present:** Commissioners Bruce Agnew, Steve Tegeler and Steve Miller

**Staff:** Deputy Clerk Addie Tych

**Guests:** Mayor Aletha Howes, Carrie Oliver (resident) and Councilmember Paula Dix

Commissioner Tegeler called the meeting to order at 7:17pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**MINUTES:** Commissioner Laws moved to approve the January 27, 2022 minutes. Commissioner Miller seconded. Vote: 3 For, 0 Against. Motion carried.

#### **COUNCIL UPDATE:**

The Council will be having the Planning Commission study the Town's current tree code in the upcoming months.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **Historic Home Preservation**

Commissioner Steve Miller has been in contact with the King County Historical Preservation Program to have them look at the Town's current historic preservation code to see what changes would need to be made. Since there is already a code chapter, it should be relatively easy to update it. There would be added code language that participation in the program would be voluntary. The Commission would like to invite fellow Villagers to next month's meeting for an information forum about the program to help gauge interest. Commissioners will reach out to their neighbors and a notice will be put in the upcoming March newsletter.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **Tree Code Study**

This past fall, the Town received several completed tree applications where the applicant indicated that the tree was dead. As required by the Tree Code, the Town Arborist made site visits to assess the trees and confirmed that they were dead. It was her opinion that no permit was needed because dead trees are not protected trees. Additionally, the current Tree Code does not directly address dead trees.

The Council reviewed the topic and have asked that the Planning Commission discuss revising the definition of hazardous trees to include dead. They would also like the Planning Commission to discuss

adding a new process that allows the Town to assess the tree's status before requiring the resident to obtain a tree removal permit and have proposed the following:

- a. If the Town Arborist finds that the tree is dead/hazardous, the resident may remove the tree without having to go through the application process.
- b. The Town should consider allowing residents to submit a request for a pre-application assessment (of trees they believe are dead / hazardous) directly to the Town Arborist through the Deputy Clerk / Building Dept without requiring an assessment by an independent arborist.
- c. If the Town Arborist finds that the tree is not dead/ hazardous, the resident would be required to apply for a tree-removal permit, including obtaining an independent arborist's report, if needed, for their application.

The Commissioners reviewed and agreed the proposed revisions are warranted. Additionally, they will have another chance to examine the revisions at a future meeting when they review the ordinance to approve them.

The Commissioners also briefly discussed the tree mitigation requirements and tree unit lot requirements. They will continue their review at the next Planning Commission meeting.

**Motion:** Commissioner Miller moved to recommend that code language for the proposed Tree Code revisions be drafted. Commissioner Tegeler seconded. Vote: 3 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm. Commissioner Laws seconded. Vote: 3 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** The next Planning Commission meeting is expected to be held remotely at 7:00pm on Thursday, March 31, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Addie Tych, Deputy Clerk