

City of Redmond Planning Commission

October 19, 2011 Meeting Summary
Redmond City Hall – Council Chambers
15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, Washington

Planning Commissioners in Attendance

Franz Wiechers-Gregory, Vice Chair; Scott Biethan; Vibhas Chandorkar; Tom Flynn and Phil Miller

Planning Commissioners Excused

Tom Hinman, Bob O'Hara

Staff in Attendance

Sarah Stiteler, Planning Commission staff liaison; Kim Dietz, Senior Planner

Call to Order

Vice Chair Franz Wiechers-Gregory called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved without changes.

Approval of meeting minutes, September 28, 2011

The minutes were approved without changes by a vote of 5-0.

Items from the audience

None

Study Session, Small Animal Husbandry, including Backyard Chickens

Kim Dietz, Senior Planner, introduced the topics for discussion based on the remaining open issues. The first topic was if Redmond should consider requiring a registration or permit process to allow small animal husbandry/backyard chickens. All Commissioners supported some form of mandatory advance review prior to the City allowing onsite chicken husbandry activities.

The Commission discussed the pros and cons of having a permit requirement; three Commissioners favored a permit, two supported the use of a mandatory registration process. They expressed the belief that having some form of requirement would give residents the assurance that a minimum standard could be enforced in the event someone does not abide by the identified best practices. In addition, they felt that with the requirement the City would have the opportunity to address issues upfront before they have the potential of becoming bigger problems. Other discussion topics included setback requirements for coops and runs, monitoring for avian flu, selling eggs and meat at roadside stands and requirements allowing limited slaughter.

Motion: approve the recommended amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, Redmond Municipal Code and Redmond Zoning Code relating to the keeping of chickens, contingent upon having a mandatory permit process. The motion passed 5-0. Ms. Dietz

stated that a draft Planning Commission report will go out in the Friday packet for Commissioner review. She requested that Commissioners contact her with questions by early next week and that she will come with the Planning Commission report on 10/26/11 for approval.

Briefing, 2011 Neighborhood Network and Citizen Academy

Kim Dietz, Senior Planner, introduced the topic and described the two programs.

The Neighborhood Network had its pilot sessions in 2010 in the Grass Lawn and Education Hill neighborhoods, with four sessions held in 2011 for the Grass Lawn, Willows/Rose Hill, Education Hill, North Redmond, Idylwood, Overlake, and Downtown neighborhoods. The structure of the Neighborhood Network meetings is to hold an open house with City officials and staff for the first portion, with a welcome by the Mayor followed by small discussion groups.

The Citizen Academy is a citywide program in which interested persons may learn about various aspects of Redmond city government during weekly sessions held over approximately six weeks.

Ms. Dietz noted that there were over 100 persons who attended these two programs in 2011. Due to the success and positive response by citizens, these programs will be underway again beginning in January, 2012. The Planning Commissioners provided suggestions regarding enhancements to these programs, including information to be provided to participants as part of Neighborhood Network meetings.

Announcements and Scheduling

Sarah Stiteler reported on the City Council's decision on the Redmond Car Care proposal at their meeting on October 18, 2011.

Adjourn

The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Summary prepared by

Sarah Stiteler, Senior Planner / Planning Commission Staff Liaison