



Shakopee Planning Commission
Meeting
Minutes
March 3, 2022
7:00 PM
City Hall, 485 Gorman St.

1. Roll Call

Chair Forsythe called the meeting to order.

Commissioners present: Josh Forsythe, Jesse Lara, Daniel Olson, Bennet Olupo, Noreen Reding, Kent Robbins, Ashlee Sepulvado

City staff present: Director of Planning & Development Michael Kerski

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Noreen Reding made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Jesse Lara and the motion passed.

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3. Call for Notarized Affidavits, Proof of Neighborhood Meeting and Sign in Sheet for appropriate Public Hearing

4. Recognition by Planning Commission of Interested Citizens

5. Consent Business - (All items listed in this section are anticipated to be routine. After a discussion by the Chair there will be an opportunity for members of the Commission to remove any items from the consent agenda for individual discussion. Those items removed will be considered following the Public hearing portion of the agenda. Items remaining on the Consent Agenda will not be discussed and will be approved in one motion.)

Commissioner Josh Forsythe made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Noreen Reding and the motion passed.

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A. Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022

6. General Business

A. Election of Officers for 2022

Chair Robbins opened the floor for nominations of the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Olson nominated Kent Robbins as Chair. Chair Robbins called for additional nominations. There were none.

Commissioner Daniel Olson made a motion to nominate Kent Robbins as Chair of the Planning Commission, seconded by Commissioner Jesse Lara and the motion passed.
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Chair Robbins opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Forsythe nominated Noreen Reding as Vice Chair. Chair Robbins called for additional nominations, there were none.

Commissioner Josh Forsythe made a motion to nominate Noreen Reding as Vice Chair of the Planning Commission, seconded by Commissioner Bennett Olupo and the motion passed.
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Chair Robbins open the floor for second Vice Chair nominations.

Commissioner Reding nominated Dan Olson as second Vice Chair. Chair Robbins called for additional nominations, there were none.

Commissioner Noreen Reding made a motion to nominate Dan Olson as second Vice Chair of Planning Commission, seconded by Commissioner Bennett Olupo and the motion passed.
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7. Other Business

A. Initiating SolSmart Designation Process

Mr. Kerski talked about Shakopee being a participant in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program. The next step that the city needs to take is to adopt a sustainable purchasing policy and track goals in the comprehensive plan and solar goals. SolSmart provides fee help to cities to remove barriers to solar installation and setting goals and explained what steps need to be taken.

Commissioner Sepulvado asked what is a purchasing program. Mr. Kerski model ordinances that go by stars. Three stars are pretty hard to get we would try for two stars. It is buying things we always use like paper like recycled paper. We bought our

first electric vehicle. The electrical inspector drives a Mustang Mach-E. We have a Ford F-150 electric on order and we will probably purchase another Mustang Mach-E. Gas is up considerably and our electrical inspector puts on 100 to 200 miles a day which costs approximately \$40 to \$50 a month for charging.

Commissioner Sepulvado said possible three stars we're shooting for two stars. Mr. Kerski said one star is common sense which we already do. Two stars from a purchasing program requires a little more thought on council action. It will come to you first then go to council for approval.

Commissioner Sepulvado asked why not three stars? Mr. Kerski said that not many cities have a three star program and it is more cost, two has a shorter cost recovery where three has a longer cost recovery.

Commissioner Sepulvado between the bronze, silver, and gold which one is our goal? Mr. Kerski for SolSmart we are going for gold. The problem in Shakopee, SPU has a really aggressive program for residential but not for commercial for solar, because it is much more expensive.

Commissioner Sepulvado asked if we had any conversation with SMSC? Mr. Kerski said that it wouldn't help us at all they are in a different territory.

Commissioner Olupo said that he notice that according to our chart that we are falling short in economic gardening. He was wondering if there are loans and grants for local businesses and how to access them if there are loans and grants.

Chair Robbins asked him to explain economic gardening.

Commissioner Olupo said what he understand is the development of local businesses to get more grassroots businesses instead of larger conglomerates come in.

Mr. Kerski said that the city council funded a entrepreneurialship program to come and he thinks there are 12 that are involved right now in the program. Scott County also has a very large program and economic gardening program. He thinks we will score pretty high on that. He said to stay tuned for more projects coming down the road. We will get the points easily.

Chair Robbins what's the pay off on doing this? Mr. Kerski its the acknowledgment that we are taking care of the planet.

Chair Robbins asked will it make any difference to us when applying for grants? Mr. Kerski stated we are making sustainable decisions on our buildings rain gardens, solar. One of things we are trying to do are best practices such as underground retention instead of storm water ponds.

Commissioner Sepulvado and if we had a goal set or just these general items as they come in. Mr. Kerski stated that as we get to level three in GreenSteps we will move them onto the council. So this item will go to the council, we will get the sustainable purchasing policy.

Chair Robbins wanted to know long will it take to get to gold or silver. Mr. Kerski said a long time. Some cities it has taken 10 years. But we are ahead of some cities with having electric cars.

Chair Robbins said that this designation would help tell Shakopee's story. Mr. Kerski one of our new taglines is Innovation. He also spoke about the super chargers that SPU is putting in different locations in Shakopee.

Commissioner Forsythe wanted to clarify that we are going through the step process and SolSmart is holding the city's hand helping us go further up the step ladder. Mr. Kerski said the step process on the solar side.

Commissioner Josh Forsythe made a motion to adopt Resolution R2022-003 authorizing the City of Shakopee to participate in the SolSmart Designation Program, seconded by Commissioner Ashlee Sepulvado and the motion passed.

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8. Adjourn to Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Noreen Reding made a motion to adjourn to Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:00 pm, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Olson and the motion passed.

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