

MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
465 NORTH PLYMOUTH AVENUE, QUARTZSITE, AZ, 85346
WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2013 AT 1:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 1:10 PM by Chairman Simpson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Chairman Simpson

ROLL CALL:

Chairman: Norm Simpson, present
Commissioner: Jim Murphy, present
Commissioner: Barbara Bowman, absent

Vice Chairman: Jesse Hearne, present
Commissioner: Dennis Kuehl, present

Staff in attendance: Steve Henrichs, Acting Community Development Services Director; Tina Abriani, Secretary

SUBJECT OF WORK SESSION:

1. Begin Formal Discussion and action on the 2013 Town of Quartzsite General Plan.

Steve Henrichs of Community Development Services summarized some options and goals in creating the 2013 General Plan. He stated that the General Plan is not zoning.

Voter approval is not required because of the Town's size and because the Town has not reached the growth requirement (2% per year for ten years). The Planning and Zoning Commission is only required to have two sessions before the Town Council in order for this to be ratified and be legitimate.

Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 9-461.06 is the required adoption process. It was read into the record.

Part of the quoted statute states: the procedures shall provide for: a) broad dissemination of proposals and alternatives; b) the opportunity for written comments; c) public hearings after effective notice; d) open discussions, communications, programs, and information services; e) consideration of public comments.

A.R.S. 9-461-05 – (General plans; authority; scope) was read into the record. The difference between shall and may was clarified (what is required and what is suggested).

This meeting is to prepare for the Council's approval to proceed because they have to authorize the Commission to move forward from here.

Some homework was assigned to have some input for the next meeting. The input should be broken down from the goals of 2003, the Vision Statement listing everything they had planned to achieve and rate it as they have either 'met', 'met some', or 'haven't met' these goals or plans.

Bring in suggestions for the 2003 General Plan; for example, looking at those things that haven't been 'met' and deciding if it is something the Town should try to achieve. This is basically a starting point to get the Council to approve moving forward.

The agenda for May 15, 2013 would be to review the adoption process.

The Commission must meet the requirements of A.R.S. 9-461-06, Adoption and amendment of general plan; expiration and re-adoption. One of the requirements for the procedure for the General Plan is to assure public participation and development of a General Plan. At a future meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission, members will discuss and approve a recommendation for the written procedures that will then be presented to Council for adoption.

Noting raised hands in the audience, Chairman Simpson invited them to speak. Shanana Rain GoldenBear asked where the figure stating that we have grown less than 2.5% in the last ten years come from. Steve Henrichs stated that it comes from the census report. Rain referenced La Paz County as showing a 9.5% increase. She asked that someone look at the growth of the Town since that last general plan, as she believes that the growth is greater than 2%. She said most cities and towns take a full year to go through this process. Steve Henrichs explained that some things from the old general plan may not change and outsourcing to engineers and so forth. Rain expressed concern that the public is not advised that this process is going on. She said it is on the website and bulletin boards; but, it is not enough to get the public here. She stated that it needs to be out there in other formats.

Steve Henrichs offered suggestions to advertise the process. He said he would look into broadcasting on the local radio station as a public service. He explained that when he has the recommendations for the written procedures drafted, he will submit it first to the Commission for their review and then the Council.

Steve Henrichs explained that there is a plan to accept input from everyone and make sure it is fair. The Commission will use a tracking system having numbers assigned to the suggestion forms; thereby having accountability as the suggestions' authors will get a copy upon submission. All suggestions will have feedback.

Rain asked that anything in the Commissioners' packet of information be provided to the public by being put on-line in addition to the agenda. She also asked for a tentative schedule.

Violet Kiss, resident, stated that staff had said they would provide an overlay of how the Town looks today compared to what was being asked for in the 2003 General Plan.

Steve Henrichs said that if specific examples of what Violet is looking for were brought to him, such as Transportation, he would reply with how the issue was addressed in the last ten years.

Violet suggested that doing a quick review of the General Plan once a year might be helpful.

A.R.S. 9-461.01 - (Planning agency powers and duties) was read aloud. Therein it listed a periodic review shall take place.

Shanana Rain GoldenBear returned to the podium to advise that the U. S. Census shows for 2000 – Quartzsite that there were 3354 and in 2010 the figure was 3677.

Steve Henrichs stated he will double check everything moving forward.

Starr BearCat spoke from the podium. She is noticing that the Commissioners did not get all the information in the packet – Starr said the Commissioners need the information twenty-four hours before the meetings so that they have time to make up their own mind. She asked if the 2003 General Plan, including maps, is available on the website so that the entire public can look at it.

Chairman Simpson thanked all three speakers for their input. He assured the audience that where possible they will get all the community participation that they can. Chairman Simpson said the census figures need to be verified before the Commission begins the process.

Commissioner Dennis Kuehl asked if it would be feasible if each Commissioner could take a portion of the ten year plan from 2003, a specific category, and review and assess it and present data as to what was done and what was not done.

Steve Henrichs said he wanted to review and discuss the 2003 General Plan chapter by chapter. Giving more effort to those items we haven't met and still want. He would like to focus energy on necessity and wants, not on what is already good or fine.

Commissioner Jim Murphy said all of these things cannot be lumped into one meeting trying to solve this whole matter at once. These things must be broken down into attainable pieces. He suggested that they start with Public Safety.

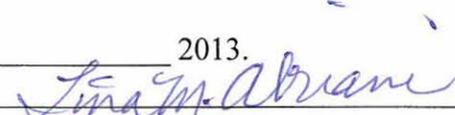
Commissioner Jesse Hearne asked if the 2003 General Plan is to be revamped by the Commission. Steve Henrichs responded in the affirmative.

Steve Henrichs explained that in order to be in compliance he read portions of A.R.S. Article 9 aloud. The next step will be for him to have written procedures of the adoption process for the Commission's review at the next meeting to be held on May 15, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT: 1: 54 PM

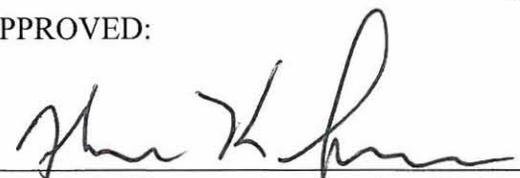
CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Work Session held on April 30, 2013, of the Planning & Zoning Commission of Quartzsite, Arizona.

Dated this 23 day of September 2013.


Tina M. Abriani, Secretary

APPROVED:



Norman K. Simpson, Commission Chairman