

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF QUARTZSITE**  
**465 NORTH PLYMOUTH AVENUE, QUARTZSITE, AZ, 85346**  
**WORK SESSION OF**  
**PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**  
**THURSDAY JUNE 20, 2013 AT 2:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

2:00 PM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Chairman Simpson led the pledge.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Chairman Norm Simpson, Vice Chairman Jesse Hearne, Commissioner Jim Murphy and Commissioner Dennis Kuehl

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Barbara Bowman

**STAFF PRESENT:** Steve Henrichs, Community Development Services, Tina Abriani, secretary

**WORK SESSION:**

1. Review Introduction and Vision Statement from the 2003 General Plan.

Steve Henrichs stated the vision statement is broad and comprehensive. He recommended any suggestions be put into writing in order to give them the consideration they deserve. The Vision Statement may be adequate as is with a little fine tuning or may be made completely new. The Introduction explains a little of how general plans came to be a component of city management. A historical portion in the Introduction was noted. Chairman Simpson wants the word 'decision', from the first bullet point on Page 1 of the Introduction, replaced with 'guideline' or something more descriptive of what it is. He would like to see the second sentence have inserted the word 'residents' after the word 'Quartzsite'.

Third bullet down on the same page: 'if it chooses to grow' should not be there.

Fourth bullet down on the same page: "support and protection" should be replaced with something such as 'economic stability'.

Chairman Simpson said something is missing from the Town Vision Statement. He thinks something in the Vision Statement should address the need for an organized assistance program for the elderly.

Steve Henrichs stated preliminary research indicates eighty percent of the population is not in the workforce; the average age is 67 in Quartzsite, representing a huge need to emphasize retirement concerns such as healthcare providers, pharmaceutical assistance and assisted living.

Commissioner Kuehl commented on the Vision Statement. He said it might say: the Town of Quartzsite is a dynamic, attractive and vibrant community with a vision to

provide and then list what the Town intends to provide. He said it should not “say providing for all”, as the Town cannot provide the list of things in the Vision Statement for all. The Vision Statement should serve as an outline of the General Plan. Each phrase could become a category in addition to what is required by law.

Chairman Simpson noted that the implementation of the Vision Statement IS the General Plan.

Steve Henrichs stated that most communities in the State of Arizona use a historical portion and ‘what makes their Town unique’ portion in their Introduction. They seem to follow: “where you were and where it is that you are going.”

Commissioner Kuehl asked about other implementation tools. He thought the Commission was going to receive copies from the Focus Future Board’s information that Chairman Simpson sits on.

Steve Henrichs said the Commission may use the Vision Statement and the Introduction as templates to adjust rather than redo the whole thing; to fine tune it and adjust it so that it is more up to date.

Vice Mayor Mike Jewitt spoke regarding historical information. He said Rosalee Oldham Wheeler’s works are something at which to look. He stated: “you don’t plan for the future by ignoring the past”.

Steve Henrichs said that generally, the Vision Statement and the Introduction are adequate but need to be updated and refreshed to meet where we are and what we are looking forward in the next ten years.

2. Discuss and recommend actions for the Introduction and Vision Statement for the 2013 General Plan.

Chairman Simpson stated concerns regarding a Vision Statement and Introduction without the input of the citizenry. Steve Henrichs said nothing will be in writing until January 2014. This is an initial discussion to get everyone to think and talk about it.

Vice Chairman Hearne has been asking people in the community about their opinions for the General Plan.

Commissioner Murphy commented on the Town finding a way to help the businesses. He wants to move in a direction that helps and protects small businesses. He said he would like to have the community save anything that is old (historical) in the Town. He’d like to see the Town help anyone with a historical site on their property to preserve it for the future.

Vice Chairman Hearne said this Town should not just be a stopping point. Our Town is in a prime location here to have businesses. More businesses will want to be here if there are interesting things from history to be found here. He suggests that the Town rejuvenate the main drag in Town and have things to interest people

Steve Henrichs recapped the discussion. The top two interests out of the discussion were the preserving of our rich history and the economic part in the Vision Statement.

Commissioner Murphy suggested a fill-out form on-line that can be anonymous to get ideas.

Vice Chairman Hearne said maybe a volunteer will help to read the responses from an on-line email form's responses.

Commissioner Kuehl volunteered to read responses from a survey or input from on-line. He suggested using the Quartzsite website.

Steve Henrichs stated this is a good start and from here on there will be a focus on historical and economic elements in the Vision Statement and the Introduction.

Chairman Simpson suggested putting recommendations and suggestions on-line to help to reduce repetition in the meetings. Steve Henrichs said he could have the comments scanned and put on the website as they arrive in Town Hall.

The survey should be ready by the end of September for the Commissioners' review.

Commissioner Murphy suggested that the residents be encouraged to understand that their voice is wanted and needed.

Chairman Simpson suggested reviewing text having to do with the General Plan in a format that has each lined numbered along the side, as in a legal document. This would help identify points in the document without so much searching. Steve Henrichs said he will look into it.

3. Public comment on Items 1 and 2.

Council Member Norma Crooks reminded everyone that we are looking for the Communities' input.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

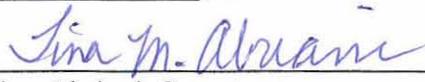
2: 52 PM

**CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Work Session held June 20, 2013, of the Planning and Zoning Commission of Quartzsite, Arizona.

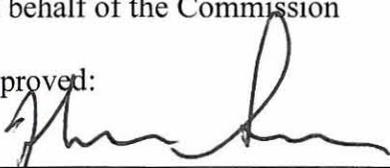
I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 23 day of September, 2013

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tina Abriani, Secretary

On behalf of the Commission

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Norm Simpson, Chairman