



Planning Commission Public Hearing Minutes for October 23, 2019

This is not a verbatim transcript of the meeting and is written in an attempt to capture the general spirit of the discussion based upon notes and video observation by the author. To view the video recording of this meeting, click [here](https://www.anacorteswa.gov/700/Watch-Meetings), or go to <https://www.anacorteswa.gov/700/Watch-Meetings>.

Chair McNett called the Public Hearing of October 23, 2019, to order at approximately 6 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Commissioners McNett, Graf, Moffitt, MacKenzie, Cleland-McGrath, and Doll (Commissioner Graf left the meeting early at approximately 7:05pm)

Absent: Commissioner Mount

Minutes

Minutes from September 25, 2019, stand as presented.

Correspondence

None

New Business

Introduction and discussion of the Draft Critical Area Ordinance Update.

Tess Cooper, Associate Planner, provided her professional background and experience, and gave a presentation on the Draft Critical Area Ordinance, providing the history, timeline, and perspective of the update. The goal is to provide a Draft #2 to City Council in the coming months. Ms. Cooper asked the Planning Commissioners to review the functional changes in the draft. She also gave a summary of the CA Ordinance Draft #1 (2017) which is available on-line. The public was encouraged to sign up to receive updates of the Draft CA Ordinance. An outline was provided on what was in Draft #2, and the changes between Draft #1 & #2. Major changes proposed were discussed as well as review procedures. An outline was provided for the next meeting of the Draft Critical Area Ordinance.

Commissioners discussed the Draft CA Ordinance. Cleland-McGrath asked for a run-through of the application process. McNett asked who manages/monitors mitigation banks. Don Measamer provided information. Commissioner McNett opened the floor to public comments.

Public Comments:

Tom Glade, resident of 210 Mansfield Ct, Anacortes: Representing Evergreen Islands, disappointed with draft #2. Mentioned the letters submitted by Evergreen Islands today.

Wilhelm Houppermans, resident of 3412 K Ave, Anacortes: Would like a new schedule or longer time-line to review draft #2 of the CAO.

Marlene Finley, resident of 1410 Kellogg Pl, Anacortes: Representing Evergreen Islands, gave history of Evergreen Islands' involvement in CAs and stated they care about the Critical Areas.

Kathleen Flanagan, resident of 2005 10th St, Anacortes: Appreciates all the work done so far on the CAO drafts, but feels overwhelmed and would like more time to review it all.

Gene Derig, resident of 1302 K Ave, Anacortes: Urged Commissioners to review the letters from Evergreen Island and from Ross Barnes. Stated needs more time to review draft.

Bob Barry, resident of 1914 22nd St, Anacortes: Concerned about the ACFL designation in the CAO draft.

Katherine O'Hara, resident of 4407 Anaco Beach Pl, Anacortes: Concerned about the Ship Harbor wetland maintaining its category 1 status and the method used to select categories.

Neal O'Hara, resident of 4407 Anaco Beach Pl, Anacortes: Would like clarification on Ship Harbor wetland and bird breeding habitat and species in that area as it relates to the CAO.

No other public comments given. Commissioners continued discussing the draft CAO. Commissioner Doll commented on Category 1 wetlands, the protection of it, and all the changes going on in Anacortes. Ms. Cooper explained how the Growth Mgt. Act, CAO, SMP, etc. overlap and don't overlap. Mr. Measamer asked for time to meet and refresh the Commissioners on draft 1 and draft 2, and suggested the next Planning Commission start at 5pm to do this. Also, Mr. Measamer stated the Planning Department is not trying to rush anything through the process, but instead trying to move the CAO and SMP forward as they do blend together and the SMP is due in June 2020.

Reminder of the October 30, 2019 meeting to roll out the Shoreline Master Plan update process.

Commissioners Moffitt and MacKenzie both stated they would like more time to digest the information in the draft CAO. Commissioner Doll mentioned she would like to see more public involvement. Ms. Cooper stated they will be doing practice examples to use the rating system, scoring, maps, etc. Commissioner MacKenzie asked if there were any conflicts in the draft CAO and existing laws. Ms. Cooper explained that we are following a document that has all the State laws concerning CAs and has checks to make sure the draft CAO is in compliance. Mr. Measamer will create a matrix to get public comments in with the review process, and reminds everyone that this is a Draft for the Critical Areas Ordinance.

With no further discussion, Chair McNett concluded the meeting at approximately 7:31 p.m.