

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PINELLAS PLANNING COUNCIL
May 11, 2016

The Pinellas Planning Council (PPC) met in regular session in the County Commission Assembly Room, Pinellas County Courthouse, 315 Court Street, Clearwater, Florida, at 3:29 P.M. with the following members present:

Jim Kennedy, Chairman, City of St. Petersburg Councilmember
John Morroni, Vice-Chairman, Pinellas County Commissioner
Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy, Secretary, City of Indian Rocks Beach Commissioner
Representing Beach Communities
Doreen Caudell, Treasurer, City of Clearwater Councilmember
Julie Ward Bujalski, City of Dunedin Mayor
Representing Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA)
Dave Eggers, Pinellas County Commissioner
Cliff Merz, City of Safety Harbor Commissioner
Representing Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, and Tarpon Springs
Darden Rice, City of St. Petersburg Councilmember
Karen Williams Seel, Pinellas County Commissioner (Late Arrival)
John Tornnga, City of Dunedin Commissioner

Not Present:

Sandra Bradbury, City of Pinellas Park Mayor
Tom Shelly, Town of Belleair Commissioner
Representing Inland Communities
Michael Smith, City of Largo Commissioner

Also Present:

Whit Blanton, Executive Director, PPC
Michael C. Crawford, Planning Division Manager, PPC
Tina M. Jablon, PPC Staff
David S. Sadowsky, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Other interested individuals
Michael P. Schmidt, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Minutes of the March 9, 2016 Meeting
 - B. Minutes of the April 13, 2016 Meeting
 - C. CPA Actions for April 2016
 - D. Preliminary June 2016 Agenda
 - E. Correspondence and PAC Agenda Action Sheet (Draft)
- III. PUBLIC HEARINGS – To begin at 3:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as agenda permits
 - A. Public Hearing Format Announcement and Oath
 - B. Amendments to the Countywide Plan Map
 - Subthreshold Amendments
 - 1. Case CW 16-14: Pinellas County
 - 2. Case CW 16-15: City of Safety Harbor
 - Regular Amendments
 - 3. Case CW 16-16: City of Safety Harbor
- IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS
 - A. Annual Audit Fiscal Year 2014-15 – Acceptance and Distribution
 - B. Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program Draft
 - C. Verbal Reports
- V. OTHER BOARD BUSINESS
 - A. Chairman/Member Items
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order at 3:29 P.M. and welcomed those in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA – APPROVED

Chairman Kennedy presented the Consent Agenda items, as follows:

- A. Minutes of the March 9, 2016 Meeting
- B. Minutes of the April 13, 2016 Meeting
- C. Countywide Planning Authority (CPA) Actions for April 2016

- D. Preliminary June 2016 Agenda
- E. Correspondence and Planners Advisory Committee Agenda Action Sheet (Draft)

Commissioner Morroni moved, seconded by Councilmember Rice and carried, that Consent Agenda Items A through E be approved (Vote 9–0).

Following approval of the Consent Agenda, Mr. Blanton clarified that all actions taken today by the members will be as the Pinellas Planning Council, not Forward Pinellas; whereupon, he briefly discussed the transition to the new name and requested consensus regarding his office filing a fictitious name request with the Department of State to begin doing business as Forward Pinellas, and no objections were noted.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. **Public Hearing Format Announcement and Oath**

Upon request by the Chairman, all persons planning to give testimony were duly sworn by the Deputy Clerk.

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Commissioner Seel entered the meeting at 3:33 P.M.

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B. **Amendments to the Countywide Plan Map**

SUBTHRESHOLD AMENDMENTS

PUBLIC HEARING: CASE CW 16-14, A PROPOSAL BY PINELLAS COUNTY TO AMEND THE COUNTYWIDE PLAN MAP FROM RESIDENTIAL LOW MEDIUM (RLM) TO OFFICE (O) – APPROVED

Pursuant to legal notice published in the April 23, 2016 issue of the *Tampa Bay Times* as evidenced by affidavit of publication filed with the Clerk, public hearing was held on Case CW 16-14, a proposal by Pinellas County to amend the Countywide Plan Map from RLM to O, re 0.7 acre m.o.l., located at 1003 Virginia Avenue.

* * * *

Commissioner Eggers left the meeting at 3:34 P.M.

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Mr. Crawford indicated that the proposed amendment is subthreshold; that the site includes a single-family home and is the last residential parcel along the corridor; that the applicant intends to eventually market the site as an office-ready property; and that staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment.

Planners Advisory Committee (PAC) Chairman Marcie Stenmark indicated that the Committee had voted unanimously in favor of the staff recommendation.

Responding to the Chairman's call for the applicant, Planning Department Zoning Manager Glenn Bailey appeared and offered to answer any questions.

No one responded to the Chairman's call for citizens wishing to be heard; whereupon, he closed the public hearing.

Thereupon, Commissioner Cookie Kennedy moved, seconded by Commissioner Morroni and carried, that Case CW 16-14 be approved as recommended by staff (Vote 9-0).

PUBLIC HEARING: CASE CW 16-15, A PROPOSAL BY THE CITY OF SAFETY HARBOR TO AMEND THE COUNTYWIDE PLAN MAP FROM RESIDENTIAL LOW MEDIUM (RLM) TO RECREATION/OPEN SPACE (R/OS) AND PRESERVATION (P) – APPROVED

Pursuant to legal notice published in the April 23, 2016 issue of the *Tampa Bay Times* as evidenced by affidavit of publication filed with the Clerk, public hearing was held on Case CW 16-15, a proposal by the City of Safety Harbor to amend the Countywide Plan Map from RLM to R/OS and P, re 8.4 acres m.o.l., located on the south side of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street, east of McMullen Booth Road.

Mr. Crawford indicated that the proposed amendment is subthreshold; that the property has been donated to the City for future public recreational use; and that staff recommends approval of the proposed amendment.

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PAC Chairman Marcie Stenmark indicated that the Committee had voted unanimously in favor of the staff recommendation; whereupon, she related that in addition to representing PAC, she is also the Community Development Director for the City of Safety Harbor.

Responding to the Chairman's call for the applicant, Michael Schoderbock, Planner, City of Safety Harbor, appeared and offered to answer any questions.

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Commissioner Eggers returned to the meeting at 3:36 P.M.

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No one responded to the Chairman's call for citizens wishing to be heard; whereupon, he closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Merz related that he wished to acknowledge George Weiss and his family for their generous donation of 8.4 acres of land to the City of Safety Harbor; and that the parcel will be maintained in a preservation state for the enjoyment of local citizens; whereupon, he moved, seconded by Commissioner Eggers and carried, that Case CW 16-15 be approved as recommended by staff (Vote 10-0).

REGULAR AMENDMENTS

PUBLIC HEARING: CASE CW 16-16, A PROPOSAL BY THE CITY OF SAFETY HARBOR TO AMEND THE COUNTYWIDE PLAN MAP FROM PUBLIC/SEMI-PUBLIC (P/SP) AND PRESERVATION (P) TO RECREATION/OPEN SPACE (R/OS), PUBLIC/SEMI-PUBLIC (P/SP) AND PRESERVATION (P) – APPROVED

Pursuant to legal notice published in the April 23, 2016 issue of the *Tampa Bay Times* as evidenced by affidavit of publication filed with the Clerk, public hearing was held on Case CW 16-16, a proposal by the City of Safety Harbor to amend the Countywide Plan Map from P/SP and P to R/OS, P/SP, and P, re 10 acres m.o.l., located west of the intersection of Green Springs Drive and Marshall Street.

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Mr. Crawford referred to aerial and street-level photographs and the Countywide Plan Map, pointed out the location of the subject area, described surrounding land uses, and provided a brief overview of the proposal. He related that the subject site is vacant; and that as part of a 2014 development agreement between the City of Safety Harbor and Harborside Christian Church, which is located immediately to the west of the subject site, the property was conveyed to the City to be designated as preservation land, including a passive park.

PAC Chairman Marcie Stenmark indicated that the Committee had voted unanimously in favor of the staff recommendation.

Responding to the Chairman's call for the applicant, Michael Schoderbock, Planner, City of Safety Harbor, appeared and offered to answer any questions. He pointed out that as part of the development agreement, the church will have a gated access road, which will only be open at certain times in order to discourage through traffic; whereupon, he indicated that City staff agrees with the following statement, "separately and in addition, it is requested that the City address an inconsistent designation of a Preservation area on the parcel immediately to the south of the subject site"; and that staff will review the matter and return with a map adjustment, and discussion ensued.

Mr. Merz expressed appreciation to Harborside Christian Church and other stakeholders for their collaboration and hard work during the lengthy negotiation process, and indicated that the combined 17 acres of preservation land will enhance the lives of City and County residents; whereupon, in response to queries by Commissioner Morroni, Mr. Schoderbock explained that although he has requested current aerial photographs to display at PPC meetings, Pinellas County is still completing its quality control process with regard to producing those images, and Commissioner Seel provided input.

No one appeared in response to the Chairman's call for proponents or opponents of the request; whereupon, he closed the public hearing.

Thereupon, Commissioner Merz moved, seconded by Commissioner Cookie Kennedy and carried, that Case CW 16-16 be approved as recommended by staff (Vote 10-0).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS

A. Annual Audit Fiscal Year 2014-15 – Accepted/Authorized Distribution

CliftonLarsonAllen Principal Andrew Laflin referred to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, and indicated that it presents an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and auditing standards. Mr. Laflin stated that

even though the audit is typically presented to the members in February, the final draft was postponed this year pending the arrival of needed information from the Florida Retirement System.

Mr. Laflin discussed the financial statements, and related that two important changes have taken place since the issuance of last year's audit report, including changes to the pension plan and unification of the PPC and Metropolitan Planning Organization. Mr. Laflin presented information regarding the pension plan and the implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements 68 and 71, indicating that a net pension liability has been created with financial statement reporting implications; whereupon, he discussed the unification effort, relating that while the sharing of services is a good thing, it does change the outlook of the financial statements.

Mr. Laflin related that Pinellas Planning Council ad valorem revenue increased from \$874,534 to \$930,070 during Fiscal Year 2014-15; that higher real estate values contributed to the additional revenue; that the 0.0160 millage rate is the same as last year; and that the Council is considering reducing its Fiscal Year 2017 millage rate to 0.0150.

Following the presentation, Councilmember Rice commented that Mr. Laflin provided a great explanation regarding GASB Statements 68 and 71.

Thereupon, Commissioner Seel moved, seconded by Commissioner Merz and carried, that the Annual Financial Statements and Regulatory Reports for the year ended September 30, 2015 be approved; and that the Director be authorized to transmit the report to the Auditor General of the State of Florida and the Board of County Commissioners (Vote 10-0).

B. Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program Draft – Received/Discussed

Mr. Blanton reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Work Program, noting that it is consistent with what his office has been doing with regard to Countywide Plan implementation, monitoring, and refinement; whereupon, he discussed the activities undertaken since he has come onboard as the Executive Director of the unified PPC/MPO, indicating that a website is being created encompassing the two agencies and is expected to be unveiled within the next month.

C. Verbal Reports

Mr. Blanton reported that he will present his budget to the County Commission tomorrow and provide highlights regarding the proposed PPC millage rollback.

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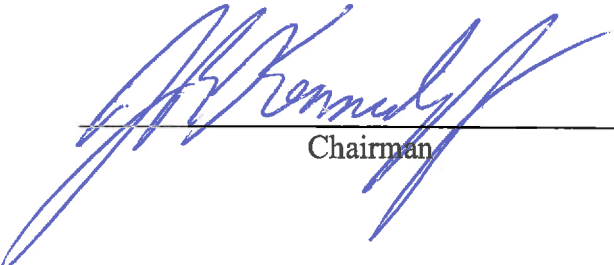
OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

Chairman/Member Items

Commissioner Merz reported that the May 3 Pinellas SPOTlight Listening Session, Enhancing Beach Access, was well attended and well received, and Chairman Kennedy and Commissioner Cookie Kennedy thanked those who were in attendance; whereupon, Commissioner Morroni suggested that the next Listening Session be held later in the day; and that a session be held for the Economic Development Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:04 P.M.


Chairman