

**Town of Bayfield
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2023, Bayfield, Colorado**

I. Opening Ceremony

The September 12, 2023, Chair Nyberg called the Town of Bayfield Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commissioners Present: Bryan Gadd, Mayor Ashleigh Tarkington, Jason Evans, Tish Nelson, Cash Snooks, and Chair Matthew Nyberg.

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present: Nicol Killian, Community Development Director; Mark Robinson, Parks and Trails Director; Jeremy Schulz, Public Works Director; Amber Lamb, Deputy Town Clerk; Police Chief Michael Hoguet

Media Present: None

Pledge of Allegiance

General Public Input:

Chair Nyberg opened and closed public comment.

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest: None

Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Evans moved to approve the agenda for the August 8, 2023, meeting as presented. Commissioner Gadd seconded.

Vote:

Commissioner Gadd – Yes

Commissioner Nelson – Yes

Commissioner Snooks - Yes

Commissioner Evans – Yes

Mayor Tarkington - Yes

Chair Nyberg – Yes

II. Discussion Item Agenda:

a. East Oak Drive Alignment Discussion

Nicol Killian, Community Development Director, presented the staff report. She said that staff is looking for direction from the Planning Commission on the future of the road alignments. There has not been much public input received. The input received has been from those neighbors most affected by the road. She showed the images to the Board of Trustees indicating the differences and engineering feedback.

Commissioner Evans said that he wants to plan for the growth of Bayfield in the long term. This is not a minor traffic adjustment. He feels that Option A-4 would be the best to minimize traffic impacts.

The Planning Commission discussed that there are many cars parked in this area when school gets out. There are seven bus routes and the busses visit each school. Ms. Killian added that a safe way to cross the highway might

help with the drop-off and pick-up traffic. Commissioner Evans added that pedestrian crosswalks would be important. He added that A-4 has an opportunity for this.

Commissioner Gadd agreed that A-4 allows for the most growth opportunity. He would prefer that the roundabout be at a 90-degree angle as it meets with Oak Dr. Commissioner Evans questioned what the School District's issue was with losing the top area of the property as the land is not being used. He would prefer wider roads and minimizing left turns. Commissioner Evans and Commissioner Nelson are adamantly against A-5.

After discussion, all commissioners were in agreement with recommending Option A-4 to the Board of Trustees.

b. Dark Sky Certification Mentor Program Discussion

Nicol Killian presented the staff report. The State recently passed a house bill encouraging municipalities to become Dark Sky compliant. Visit Durango represented the City of Durango last year and got a dark sky certification. Becoming a dark sky community would give us policies in place for protecting our dark skies. Visit Durango has agreed to do most of the work. Staff is asking for feedback from the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Evans said that the IRC, IMC, IBMC and others are divergent with the dark sky policies. He is concerned with adding more regulations to the recently adopted codes. Ms. Killian said that we have the ability to do what works for Bayfield. We do not need to be 100% certified. Commissioner Snooks said that in his experience, the dark sky lighting adds cost to building. Ms. Killian said that we can add a caveat that the cost and safety of our building codes are a concern.

Mayor Tarkington said that people are concerned with increased housing. The brightness is too much. She feels that this should be looked in to.

Ms. Killian said that no matter what, the process will go to the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees. We can make changes as needed.

Chair Nyberg said that lighting concerns can be mentioned in covenants.

Commissioner Evans said that Sedona, AZ has several extra pages on their building code for dark sky. He does not want that for Bayfield.

III. Action Agenda

a. Approval of August 8, 2023, Minutes

Mayor Tarkington made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 8, 2023, meeting as presented. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion.

Vote:

Commissioner Gadd – Yes
Commissioner Nelson – Yes
Commissioner Snooks - Yes
Commissioner Evans – Yes
Mayor Tarkington - Yes
Chair Nyberg – Yes

IV. Discussion and Adjourn

- a. September 19, 2023 Next Board of Trustees Meeting
- b. October 10, 2023 Next Planning Commission Meeting
- c. Adjourn


- a. Mayor Tarkington moved to adjourn the September 12, 2023, meeting. Chair Nyberg adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Approved:



Matthew Nyberg, Chairperson

Attest:



Amber Lamb, Deputy Town Clerk