

**City of Blue Lake  
Planning Commission Minutes  
October 21, 2013**

**The Blue Lake Planning Commission Special Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at Skinner Store**

**Commissioners Present:** Jon Fechner, Rick Platz, Karen Nessler, Joe Krienke

**Commissioners Absent:** John Amirkhan

**Staff Present:** City Planner Garrison Rees and Planning Commission Secretary Kara Newman

**Staff Absent:** City Manager John Berchtold

1. **Approval of Minutes: September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013**
  - a. Motion (Nessler/Krienke) to approve September minutes as is.
  - b. Motion passed unanimously.
2. **Public Input on Non-Agenda Items**
  - a. None
3. **Approval of the Agenda**
  - a. Motion (Nessler/Fechner) to move approve agenda as is.
  - b. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/ Action:**

4. **Planning Commission Discussion: Review of Blue Lake Zoning Ordinance Section 602(A) – Animals and Animal Shelters.**
  - a. City Planner Rees explained that community members and the sheriff's office have provided input that the ordinance on the keeping of animals in the City is not clear. Specifically, the keeping of roosters on residential property was noted as an area of the ordinance that could use further clarification. Planner Rees also noted that the ordinance allows 60 chicken hens to be kept on a residential property which is much higher than other jurisdictions.
  - b. Planner Rees presented to the Commissioners the current version of Section 602(A) – Animals and Animal Shelters in the Zoning Ordinance and a revised version that was recommended by the Planning Commission to the City Council in 2009 but never adopted.
  - c. Chair Platz opened the item up for public comment.
  - d. Diana Lynn commented on an article she read encouraging urban poultry in New York and inquired if uses can be allowed that are considered a nuisance.
  - e. Commissioners reviewed and discussed the 2009 revised version of Section 602(A) that was recommended to the City Council.
  - f. Several commissioners stated that they currently have chicken or have raised

- chickens in the past.
- g. Commissioner Nessler commented that she thinks 12 chickens on a property is a more appropriate number and that she has heard numerous complaints about roosters in the community.
  - h. Commissioners concurred with Sections 602(A)(1), (2), (3), (5), and 602(B) of the 2009 revised version of Section 602 – Animals & Animal Shelters.
  - i. Commissioners recommended revising Section 602(A)(4) to provide clarification between meat chickens and egg laying chickens.
  - j. Commissioner Fechner stated that he will do further research and come back to the City Planner with a recommendation for revising Section 602(A)(4).
  - k. The Commission directed Planner Rees to bring back a revised version of Section 602(A)(4) at the next meeting.
  - l. Motion (Platz/Fechner) to continue the item until next meeting and consider the revised version of Section 602(A)(4).
  - m. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. Planning Commission Discussion: City of Blue Lake Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Sustainable Communities Planning Grant No3012-552 progress update. Presentation of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory completed by Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA).**

- a. City Planner Rees presented the results of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory to the Planning Commission. Rees stated that the City generated approximately 9,800 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in the 2005 baseline inventory year and explained the difference between emissions that occur within the City and emissions that occur outside of the City due to activities in the City. Planner Rees identified the combustion of fuels for transportation, cooking, and heating as the main sources of greenhouse gas emission in the City. Electricity consumption and solid waste generation were identified as two other significant contributors to greenhouse gas emissions.
- b. Commissioners asked why there were no emissions shown in the industrial point source section of the inventory when there is a carbon reprocessing plant and bio-mass power plant in the City's business park. Planner Rees explained that there was not data available for Calgon Carbon in the baseline inventory year of 2005 and that the emissions from Blue Lake Power is assigned to San Diego since the power is purchased by San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E).
- c. Commissioners asked several questions about how the emissions data for the transportation sector were generated. Planner Rees explained the various sources of data that were used and that the emissions from transportation are challenging to determine.
- d. Commissioners asked what are the next steps now that the City knows how many emissions are generated. Planner Rees explained that the next step is to develop a Climate Action Plan which contains emission reduction targets and a variety of implementation measures to achieve those targets. Planner Rees further explained that it will be up to the Planning Commission, City Council, and the public to provide direction on which implementation measures to prioritize and therefore which emissions reduction target to shoot for. A draft of the Climate Action Plan will be prepared by mid-December and presentations to the Planning Commission and City

Council will occur soon after.

**6. Miscellaneous Planner Items**

- a. City Planner Rees updated the Planning Commission on projects that will come before them in the next few months.

**7. Upcoming Planning Commission Meetings for the next 3 months will be on November 18<sup>th</sup>, December 16<sup>th</sup>, & January 20<sup>th</sup>.**

- a. Chair Platz stated that he will absent from the November and December meetings.

**8. Adjournment by 9:00 pm unless extended by the Planning Commission.**

- a. Motion (Krienke/Nessler) to adjourn.
- b. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.