

**TOWN OF LA CONNER  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
September 19, 2023**

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The Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Commissioners present: Carol Hedlin, Marna Hanneman, Bruce Bradburn, John Leaver, Sommer Holt

Commissioners absent: None

Staff: Michael Davolio, Ajah Eills

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**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Kathy Shiner noted that 214 Maple Ave was being improperly described on a realtor's website. This sparked an ongoing discussion of the property and potential uses of the property.

Leslie Smith mentioned that the property could provide housing and the Town should ensure it is not used for short term rentals.

Linda Talman had previously submitted a FOI request related to this section of Town, and she described the history of the property. She said that the property is residential now and that she has contacted the realtor about this.

There was continued discussion of the uses permitted at 214 Maple Ave.

Commissioner Hannaman questioned when the tree replacement by Ziply would be down. Planner Davolio responded that he is waiting for information.

Commissioner Hannaman introduced a proposal from the Library to add the Library to the list of essential public facilities in La Conner.

There was an explanation of the process of a comprehensive plan amendment.

Commissioner Bradburn moved to recommend a fee waiver for the Library and inclusion of the requested addition. Commission Leaver seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

There was further discussion of the comprehensive plan amendment process.

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Leaver moved to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Bradburn. **Motion to approve minutes with amendments carried unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There were no developments in the Talmon Project. Staff presented updates on public participation, which included no new communication with the School District, a community event on October 17<sup>th</sup>, and a scheduled meeting with the Swinomish Tribal Community which was not attended by the Swinomish. It is expected to be rescheduled.

There was an outbreak of conversation regarding a Swinomish owned property on 1<sup>st</sup> St.

Staff presented an update on the transportation element of the comprehensive plan, which included an extensive discussion about the possibility of paid parking in La Conner. Parking enforcement and the possibility of shuttles were brought up. The update contained with staff discussing safe routes to school, safety in street crossings, safety for bicyclists, and multi-modal pathways. There was discussion of sidewalks in La Conner, with discussion of community-funded sidewalks and the circumstances in which sidewalks can be created. There was discussion about bus access, including the bus routes and ridership in La Conner. There was continued discussion about enforcement of parking and other transportation protocols, as well as the history of parking meters. The parking fund was mentioned as a source of funds for enforcement and other improvements, and the formation of a sub-committee to investigate parking was also mentioned. There was discussion regarding traffic concerns related to Morris Street.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

~~Ross Chapman~~ <sup>Chapin</sup> will be joining the Commissioners in Langley on October 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss affordable housing.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/STAFF COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Holt inquired about when the online code would be updated with the most recent changes to the Municipal Code.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be on October 3, 2023.

With no further business Commissioner Hanneman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Leaver. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Carol Hedrick  
Chair

10/3/2023  
Date