

City of Newport Planning Commission Minutes
Tuesday, January 4, 2022

Members Present: John Monette, Chair
Denis Chenette, Vice-Chair
Amanda (Mandy) Chaput, Secretary
Kevin Meade
Carole O'Connell

Guests: Alison Lowe, NVDA
Laura Dolgin, City Manager

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Monette called the meeting to Order at 6:02pm.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Tuesday, December 21, 2021 Planning Commission Meeting. Mr. Meade made the motion to accept the minutes, Mr. Chenette made a second. The minutes were approved. Unanimously.
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **City Development Plan:** Received a comment via FB where a user expressed disappointment that there was not more focus on families, but more so on Seniors. The Mayor responded that this was a first draft and was only one section of the larger document, and additional sections will be posted as the work progresses. Alison would like to reach out to the person making the comment to see if they have more input into family housing. Laura offered to provide the contact info for the person.

The Commission reviewed the Development & Leisure sections (draft pages 20-35) one more time to double check the last meeting's work product – the overall density is similar to what it was about 80 years ago. Growth has stayed the same. A lot of the present residential neighborhoods were farms 50 years ago. Mention was made of the local users of the railroad such as Poulin Grain, Columbia Forest Products, and Feed Commodities.

The Vibrancy section was the focus of today's meeting (draft pages 36-40). Most sections of the Vibrancy plan were approved with minor adjustments. The commission would like to share the paragraphs about the MAC Center and the Goodrich Memorial Library to their representatives for input and out of respect.

The next section up through page 33 will be released for public comment after Alison formalizes the edits made today. She will forward them to Laura to post on the city website.

Future speakers could include NVDA's Transportation planner, the hospital, and Rural Edge.

5. Old Business: None
6. New Business: None
7. Set a draft agenda for the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission Meeting: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:00pm. Agenda will be similar to the agenda for tonight, unless a guest speaker gets scheduled.
8. Adjourn. Motion made to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. by Ms. O'Connell and seconded by Mr. Chenette.

Respectfully Submitted by Amanda (Mandy) Chaput, Secretary
Unofficial Until Approved

Approved this 1st day of February 2022

Chair, City of Newport Planning Commission