

DRAFT

City of Newport
Planning Commission Meeting
July 5, 2022

Present: John Monette, Denis Chenette, Carole O'Connell, Kevin Mead (remotely),

Others: Paul Luciano - Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Consultant (remotely), City Manager Laura Dolgin

1. Call to order: Chair Monette called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
2. Approval of the minutes: Carole O'Connell moved to approve the Planning Commission minutes from the June 21, 2022, meeting with Denis Chenette seconding. The motion passed.
3. Public Comment: no public comment.
4. Hazard Mitigation Update: Paul Luciano - Consultant

Paul Luciano is the consultant who is providing the update to the city's plan. Mr. Luciano worked with the City in 2016 on the original Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The hazard mitigation team has been named and Mr. Luciano will correspond with the team to provide input and comment. The team is composed of representatives from large employers, the hospital, schools, Columbia Forest Products, public safety, public works, fire and ambulance. There have been some changes since 2016. Back then, we were weaving trends and looking at non natural hazards for profiles. Now it is time to move non natural hazards into the category of vulnerabilities. The pandemic, for example, is very real and back on mitigation planning, as is excessive cold, severe winter storms, fire threats, high winds, and excessive heat. This type of work is Mr. Luciano's specialty as he has been providing this service to the NEK Communities since 2014. He has a very efficient and credible process. Mitigation planning is based on historical data and trends.

Mr. Luciano will send an introductory email to the planning team within the next two weeks. This email will provide a brief synopsis of the update process and describe the update, which will not be as labor intensive as it was during the original round. Mr. Luciano will then infuse all the updated language from the state's plan and look at any disaster funding the city has received since the last plan. He will work with the city's department heads as the sections are updated, and the plan will be reviewed by the planning team. Mr. Luciano will also conduct a public survey to make sure of community input as much as possible.

Project can be wrapped up in 4-5 months. Mr. Luciano will be able to attend staff meetings for efficiency.

The Planning Commission's role is to review and provide input, in either one to one email, or review and comment on the draft itself. There may be some questions that are specific to the planning commission. The commission members thanked Mr. Luciano for the update and looks forward to working with him. He departed the meeting at 6:45.

Upon his departure, discussion ensued about including things such as active killers and train wrecks. Mr. Luciano will respond to this at his next visit.

DRAFT

5. City Plan Development: The plan has been placed on the city's website. The powerpoint and John Monette script that was used at the community summit will be suitable to use at the public hearings. The members discussed the timelines for all the public hearings.
6. Old Business: Laura Dolgin will attempt to schedule the zoning administrator interviews for the next planning commission meeting scheduled for July 19. The Planning Commission supports the position to be a full time benefited position as the job expectations are becoming more complex.

Members are asked to take a final read through the draft prior to the August 2 public hearing. Alison Low will be present at this public meeting.

7. New business: Northern Express Care ribbon cutting is scheduled for Friday at 2:00.
8. Next Meeting: July 19, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.
9. Set a draft agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting: possible executive session for interviews, otherwise it will be similar to tonight's agenda. Will leave the city plan development in case members want to take another pass through.
10. Adjourn: Carole O'Connell moved to adjourn at 7:54 with Kevin Mead seconding, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Dolgin
Unofficial Until Approved

Approved this ___ day of _____, 2022.

Chair, Newport City Planning Commission