

City of Newport  
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes  
December 20, 2022

Members Present: John Monette, Denis Chenette, Carole O'Connell, Kevin Mead

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Zoning Administrator Frank Cheney, Gina Cirelli and Jennifer Hopkins

- **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Chair Monette at 7:18 p.m.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Carole O'Connell made a motion to approve the minutes of December 6, 2022, Kevin Mead seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.
- **Public Comment:** Chair Monette provided the members of the public with a brief overview of the role of Newport's Planning Commission and a description of the currently underway Bylaw Modernization Project.
- **Agenda Item:**
  - 1) Bylaw Modernization Project:** The Planning Commissions evaluated findings derived from its previous review of Chapter 2 Residential Districts. Issues surrounding zoning district boundary adjustment, nonconformities, dimensional standards, and housing needs were discussed. The commission reached a consensus that procuring a housing needs assessment would provide valuable information that may be required to complete the Bylaw Modernization Project. Frank Cheney will explore the viable options that may be available to obtain this information. \*\*The recently approved Municipal Plan highlights the need for a formal housing study.
  - 2) Set 2023 Meeting Dates:** Frank Cheney provided members with a list of suggested 2023 meeting dates. After a brief review Denis Chenette made a motion to approve the proposed dates, Kevin Mead seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Old Business:** Denis Chenette asked for an update on the status of Alison Low's analysis of Newport's Flood Area Regulations. Frank Cheney reported that as of this date we have not received the updated FEMA Flood Maps however he is anticipating receiving a report of evaluation regarding Newport's current Flood Regulations in the next few months from Alison.
- **New Business:** There was no new business.
- **Draft Agenda:** The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission Meeting will be held on January 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The Planning Commission agenda will be like tonight's meeting with the additional participation of Brandy Saxton.
- **Adjourn:** Denis Chenette made motion to adjourn, Carole O'Connell seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Zoning Administrator Frank Cheney  
Unofficial Until Approved

Approved this 3rd day of January, 2023

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Chair, Newport City Planning Commission