

**MINUTES OF THE SANDPOINT PLANNING REGULAR MEETING
HELD JULY 23, 2002, AT CITY HALL**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Spickelmire called the Planning Commission's regular meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL: In attendance were Planning Commission members Donna Deshon, Michael Dougherty, , Chuck Spickelmire, Raffat Saied, Planning Director Jeff Jones, Associate Planner Joan Bramblee and Project Coordinator Stephen Drinkard. Commission members Christine Kester Alice Vroman were absent.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Chairman Spickelmire noted the June 11, 2002, workshop minutes should be corrected to reflect that Commissioner Dougherty was in attendance.

Commissioner Dougherty moved to approve the consent calendar, which included the June 11, 2002, workshop minutes (as corrected), June 25, 2002, regular meeting minutes, and July 9, 2002, workshop minutes.

Commissioner Saied seconded; the motion passed with no opposition.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Spickelmire noted this was a continuation of the Workshop regarding this issue.

**Continuation of ZC02-03
Community Forestry
Ordinance - An
amendment to Sandpoint
City Code providing for
standards for the
planting, pruning,
removal and maintenance
of trees, shrubs and other
plants within the public
rights-of-way and public
places of the City and to
protect the urban forest.**

Staff Report: Mr. Drinkard noted, as requested, the Commission has been provided with copies of the existing Code related to reviewed the revisions to the draft Community Forestry Ordinance that have been incorporated since the Commission's initial review of the document.

Commissioner Dougherty stated he does not believe Section 7-15-13.A, where it defines the membership of the Community Forest Committee, is specific enough. The current language only calls for one member to have experience or expertise in the field and there is no residency requirement. Mr. Drinkard noted the Committee will be involved in the long-term management of the community forest, which will include public education. They will also serve as a Board of Appeal where there is an issue regarding a Street Tree. There should be at least one person on the Committee with some expertise, although it would be nice to have more.

Commissioner Dougherty moved that the membership of the Community Forest Committee include 1 member who is licensed (certified arboriculturist or equivalent) and 2 with some degree of experience. **Commissioner Saied seconded;** the motion passed without opposition.

Commissioner Dougherty inquired if a homeowner will be able to take care of problems with any Street Trees. Mr. Drinkard noted the Code allows "minor pruning (less than 2" diameter or which constitutes less than 15% of the tree's foliage bearing area) without a permit. Discussion followed on the issue of trees and sidewalks and the financial responsibilities involved in tree maintenance. The question was raised whether the City could take responsibility for tree maintenance and assess all residents instead of

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individual property or homeowners having to pay for it. Mr. Jones said he would research whether an enterprise fund can be done for trees.

Commissioner Dougherty also expressed concern about the lack of public awareness about the proposed change; the Commission should have another public meeting to take comments from interested parties and there should be some publicity regarding it. He would like to see a way created of informing the public via the newspaper about issues the Commission is working on to encourage more public awareness and participation. It was agreed Staff would check into the issue and would draft an article regarding this issue.

Commissioner Dougherty moved to continue this item to the August 27, 2002 regular meeting. **Commissioner Deshon seconded**; the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman Spickelmire encouraged the Commission members to review and redline the draft ordinance before the next meeting. The Commission indicated they would like to review the article before it is submitted to the newspaper.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

**MATTERS FROM THE
STAFF:**

Mrs. Bramblee reviewed the Council's actions on the issues forwarded to them by the Planning Commission.

**MATTERS FROM THE
COMMISSION:**

Chairman Spickelmire noted the Commission had been given copies of an article regarding Sandpoint that appeared in the *Idaho Magazine*, a portion of which was written by Mrs. Bramblee.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Spickelmire adjourned the special meeting at 7:04 p.m.

/s/
Chuck Spickelmire, Chairman