

Citizen Involvement Committee

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To: Mayor <Mayor@YachatsMail.org>; Ann@yachatsmail.org <Ann@YachatsMail.org>; Anthony Muirhead <Anthony@YachatsMail.org>; Greg@yachatsmail.org <greg@YachatsMail.org>; Mary Ellen O'Shaughnessey <oshaughn@illinois.edu>

 1 attachments (25 KB)

CIC.pdf;

TO: Yachats City Council,

First of all I want to apologize for the slow response time in getting this recommendation back to the City Council. The Planning Commission has had some difficulty in getting a quorum recently. There have been vacations, and required absences for work, and we have had difficulty in agreeing on how to approach this topic.

We have had assistance from some citizen volunteers from the YAA (Yachats Action Alliance), which was formed to give input on the Agate Point Conditional Use permit, and which has been delayed more than once.

The general conclusion that we came to was that "citizen advisors" want to advise the city government. They do not want to "be" the city government. And, they are frequently motivated by individual issues facing the city government. However, we feel that we can get a core of organizers who will stick with the city, and advise on multiple issues over a period of time. They will have others come and go as the issues interest them.

We have also found a preference for "informal" meeting locations and procedures. To put it a different way: they are happy to advise, but they want to do it on their terms...meetings at places and times of their choosing, and procedures that they are comfortable with.

To that end the Planning Commission is making the attached recommendations. We created an "administrative procedural" document, not an ordinance. We felt that we would have difficulty attracting, and keeping volunteers if we made it more structured. We realize that there have been discussions about the need for *Public Meetings with Public Records* for all committees. This has come up with the Trails Committee and the Water Conservation Committee. Still our recommendation is that the advice be presented formally, but that they can discuss the advice wherever and whenever they choose.

I will attend the City Council whenever this is on the agenda, and I can explain further if needed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lance Bloch

Planning Commission Chair

Citizen Involvement Committee

Comments by The Planning Commission

4/25/2022

Goals:

1. Increase citizen involvement in land use planning.
2. Improve communication between local government, residents, and businesses.
3. Meet Oregon Goal 1 OAR 660-015-0000(1)

During discussions of the CIC in the January 18th Planning Commission meeting, as well as the February 15th Planning Commission meeting, it was agreed that we should focus on the requirements of Oregon Goal 1, and emphasize getting citizen involvement in the planning process. While it is recognized that an all-issues CIC could be very useful as well, it was felt that we should address the state requirements first. Toward that end we are making the following recommendations.

MEMBERSHIP:

We should advertise for community volunteers to fill up to 5 seats on the CIC. Their only qualifications are that they be Yachats residents with an interest in community involvement. These people will report to the City Planner as a primary contact point.

(John Ayer has indicated that he is in touch with several potential volunteers.)

DUTIES:

1. Identify a Spokesperson to organize their meetings, as well as one or more alternates. The Chair should rotate to provide opportunities for cross training, as well as coverage for absences.
2. Report directly to the Yachats City Planner concerning all active projects. Identify the person to do this report, and rotate the function to provide opportunities for cross training.
3. Outreach and Education are the primary duties of the CIC.
4. Increase citizen input to long range planning. This may include input to Comprehensive Plan updates. It may also include preparation, distribution, and analysis of community surveys as required by any land use planning projects whether they are initiated by the Planning Commission, the City Council, or another Yachats city commission.
5. Have a representative attend Yachats Planning Commission meetings to report any planning related citizen input.
6. Have a representative to attend monthly Commission Chair meetings in order to increase communication between the citizens and the commissions.
7. Write a column for the Yachats monthly newsletter whenever CIC activities provide information to share.
8. Identify community projects which require volunteer help, which may include participation in the CIC and the Commissions, and advertise and recruit this volunteer

- help.
9. Inform the public of dates and times of upcoming Planning Commission hearings on land use applications when directed by the City Planner.
 10. Direct citizen questions on any pending land use application to the City Planner.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Facilitate communication between the Planning Commission and the citizens of Yachats. This is not a policy making committee, or one which advocates a position on any pending land use application permitted by Title 9 of the Municipal Code. Land use applications include, but are not necessarily limited to: partitions, boundary line adjustments, subdivisions, any planned unit development, conditional use, or variance request.