

City of Gig Harbor Planning Commission
Work Study Session
March 24, 2011
Planning/Building Conference Room
4:00 pm

PRESENT: Harris Atkins, Bill Coughlin, Michael Fisher and Ben Coronado. Jim Pasin and Jill Guernsey were absent.

STAFF PRESENT: Staff: Tom Dolan, Peter Katich and Jeff Langhelm.

CALL TO ORDER: at 4:00 pm

It was decided to postpone approval of the minutes until later in the meeting.

WORK STUDY SESSION

Senior Engineer Jeff Langhelm gave a brief overview of the City's stormwater program and how stormwater is managed prior to being discharged into Gig Harbor Bay. Mr. Langhelm answered questions from the Commission regarding the effects of the stormwater manual on new development and how much of the stormwater ends up in Gig Harbor Bay.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION: Move to approve the minutes of March 3, 2011 as written.
Fisher/Coronado – Motion carried.

MOTION: Move to approve the minutes of March 10, 2011 as written.
Coronado/Fisher – Motion carried.

WORK STUDY SESSION

Mr. Katich went over the graphic he had provided to the Commission that depicted the vegetation conservation strip and marine setback requirements on a 50-foot wide lot. Mr. Katich noted that it seemed a little dense for an urban shoreline. Discussion followed on possible alternatives for the vegetation conservation strip. Mr. Fisher suggested that perhaps trees were not an appropriate element on the Gig Harbor shoreline. Mr. Dolan suggested that the Commission should explain at the hearing that there hadn't been time to change the draft but that they felt that the requirement needed to be modified. There was further discussion on the purpose of the vegetation conservation strip. It was decided to not show the graphic at the public hearing and explain that the section on vegetation conservation strips will be reexamined and further revised.

The Commission then reviewed the proposed approach for the open house and public hearing scheduled for March 31st and the organization of the presentation for the open house. Mr. Atkins noted that the Commission members should be on the floor with the public during the open house portion. Mr. Katich asked if they wanted to handle any business such as adoption of the minutes and it was decided that they would postpone business items until the next meeting. Mr. Fisher went over his presentation. Discussion continued on the issues needed to be highlighted during the open house and public hearing. Mr. Fisher suggested that he would like to have questions held to the end and that there be tables for each of the subjects for people to approach and ask their questions. Everyone agreed with the approach. Discussion continued on the county requirements and the need to emphasize to those people owning property within the Urban Growth Area that they are still subject to the county requirements. The Commission then reviewed the various graphics that would be presented at the open house/public hearing. Mr. Dolan went over the schedule for the Commission meetings following the public hearing. Discussion was then held on the Council's role in the adoption of the master program and how many public hearings they may hold.

The meeting was adjourned by general consensus.