



22500 Salamo Road  
West Linn, Oregon 97068  
<http://westlinnoregon.gov>

# COMMITTEE FOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT MEETING

Thursday, June 16, 2016

5:00 p.m. - Meeting –City Hall (Bolton Conference Room)

**Present:** Karie Oakes, Michael Babbitt, Kris Wolfe, Gail Holmes, Russ Axelrod

**Staff Present:** Eileen Stein

**Citizens Present:** Dale and Sherry Fortuna

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1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the June 2, 2016 minutes
  - Tabled until the July 7, 2016 meeting for additional information.
3. Continue discussions of potential revisions to Municipal and Community Development Codes
  - Citizens Dale and Sherry Fortuna asked how they could partake in the code changing process. Several questions related to codes and the process have been raised as they have tried to partition their property.
  - Fortunas sighted the following as specific areas of frustration and /or concern.
    - Fees
    - Complication of overall process
    - In Lue of Fees on unnecessary requests to property, eg: moving telephone poles, sidewalk install and road maintenance.
    - Difficulty to understand code
    - Difficulty in completing process, seems geared towards citizens hiring professional services rather than being able to navigate themselves.
    - Primary concern on how they could make this process simpler for the next citizen.
  - Axelrod highlighted the objective of the CCI's current work for the Fortunas, which is to address code changes made in previous years that limit public process in land use process. He stated the process to submit desired code changes is to go to the CCI, which will then address suggestions. The CCI then has the ability to forward these suggestions

to the Planning Commission, which then has the ability to forward them to City Council, after a public hearing.

- Babbitt suggested the CCI have a greater presence on the City's website, particularly information that relates to the Committee's goals and process.
- Discuss Code 81.060 B: "An expedited boundary change proposal may be considered by the City Council without a public hearing. The Council decision on the proposal shall be considered the final decision for purposes of compliance with Metro Code Chapter 3.09."

- Questions: Can the city annex property, if it is a minor boundary change, without a public hearing? What alternatives are there to a public hearing?

- Axelrod: Bring back appeal option but leave expedited process.

Appeal option will provide checks and balances.

- Discuss Code 99.070 B: "When an applicant requests to undertake preliminary work, for site preparation or analysis, the Director may allow decisions within the Director's authority to precede the subsequent decision required for review by the decision-making body. (Ord. 1474, 2001; Ord. 1568, 2008; Ord. 1635 § 39, 2014)"
  - Questions: Would a lot of people get involved in those issues? Does changing it promote citizen involvement? Why work on the property before a decision is made? What is the process to appeal planning director decisions?
  - Tabled for later discussion
- Discuss Code 99.080: Should planning decisions appear in the newspaper?
  - Questions: What is the cost of noticing in the newspaper? How does it affect staff workload?
  - Currently emails regarding decisions are sent out to Neighborhood Association presidents.
  - Suggestion by group to add planning director decisions to the website.

#### 4. Discuss citizen engagement ideas for Community Involvement Plan

- Wolfe: Challenge that need to consider-how to break through inertia of everyday life for people. Solution: "Be a cheerleader." Create events, make city business fun. Take Council goals and find fun ways to make the community participate
- Axelrod: Make CCI accessibility more open.
- Holmes: Tangibles needed to explain purpose of CCI-make sure people understand what CCI is supposed to do.

#### 5. Member Comments

- Closing discussion on next meeting date
- Wolfe had email problems with information being sent out to group.

#### 6. Adjourn