

Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee on Zoning Regulations for Emergency Shelters

February 15, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at the City of Longview City Council Chambers, City Hall

Present were City Council members Scott Vydra and Steve Moon and Planning Commission members Ramona Leber and Christine Schott.

Staff present included Planning Manager Steve Langdon, Community Development Director John Brickey and City Attorney James McNamara; (at approx. 6 pm Mr. McNamara left to attend to a prior obligation and was replaced by Assistant City Attorney Steve Shuman)

Members of the public were also in attendance

- Mr. Vydra made some opening comments to provide an overview of the process of crafting zoning regulations for homeless shelters. He emphasized that tonight's meeting was not a public hearing, but that the public would be given an opportunity to address the ad hoc committee regarding the evening's discussion items
- Mr. McNamara also made introductory comments, again emphasizing that the scope of the meeting was for the ad hoc committee to discuss items on the agenda such as placing shelters in the R-4 zone, and that the committee was not conducting a public hearing. In particular, because of an article in the paper regarding the leasing of space within the City by Love Overwhelming, he pointed out to the committee and the public that that land use would not be the topic of the evening's discussion in that Love Overwhelming could potentially apply for zone change and it would not be appropriate for the committee to hear testimony on what could be a future zone change request, outside the normal Planning Commission and City Council hearing processes.
- First order of business was a staff presentation from Steve Langdon on the current draft of the shelter ordinance proposal and changes in buffer width. He noted the change in the proposal of certain buffers from 500' to 1000'. Mr. Langdon showed maps of the 325' parks and SF buffer; the 650' school buffer and the 1000' buffer of existing shelters. He pointed out that the proposal does not show shelters as an allowed use in Industrial zones. He noted that use in the R-4 zone was under discussion. He discussed aspects of the proposed Good Neighbor Agreement. He discussed the public hearing process and criteria that would apply to a proposed use.
- Members of the public were invited to comment
- Mr. Langdon then addressed his understanding of the City of Vancouver's approach. He discussed the concept of allowing shelters in the R-4 zone.

- Ms. Leber spoke to the use of R-4 for small limited capacity shelters, smaller than Community House
- More public comment was taken
- Next meeting was scheduled for March 9th at 5 pm. At that time the committee requested staff to have information regarding what a smaller shelter in the R-4 zone would look like.

The meeting concluded at 7:10 PM.