

**City of Rainier
Rainier Planning Commission
March 19th, 2019
7 p.m.**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Scott Garrison at 7 p.m.
Flag salute led by Commissioner Elliott

Roll Call

Those present were Commissioners Garrison, Foster, McVey, Turner and Elliot. Staff present was Brandy Rhodes, Ron Gibson and Katrina VanEvery

Approval of Agenda

Motion to amend the 04/16/2019 Planning Commission agenda to include discussion on building specification/regulations for storage facilities and landscaping companies. Elliott/McVey 5/0

Motion to approve the 04/16/2019 Planning Commission agenda. McVey/Turner 5/0

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve 03/19/2019 Planning Commission minutes McVey/Elliott 5/0

New Business

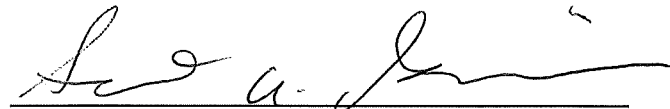
- Building Specifications/Regulations for Storage Facilities and Landscaping Companies
Commissioner Elliott expressed his concern that the existing regulations are not specific enough when dealing with storage facilities or landscaping businesses such as a bark yard. Lack of adequate standards negatively impacts the attractiveness and appeal of Rainier, especially for businesses along Highway 507. The other Commissioners agreed this was an issue they wanted to deal with sooner rather than later and asked Katrina for guidance. Katrina informed the Commissioners that the next step would be for her to present the Planning Commission's concerns with the City Council and get their feedback on whether or not changes should be made. The Planning Commission discussed the possibility of the City Council instituting a moratorium on such businesses while the update is underway. The Planning Commissioners also felt that these issues should be addressed at the same time as the landscaping regulations update.

Old Business

- Discussion for landscaping requirements
Public Works director Ron Gibson gave the Planning Commission suggestions on what street trees/landscaping has and has not worked well within Rainier and how to avoid installing landscaping that will be difficult to maintain. The Planning Commission discussed the possibility of requiring some street trees to be planted on private property. Mr. Gibson highlighted the importance of requiring watering and a bond or some other mechanism during the period of time when a street tree is being established – anywhere from three to five years after planting. The Planning Commission is interested in seeking assistance from other “tree cities” in the area who may have an arborist on staff. Guidance from such a professional will help the Planning Commission better understand what a street tree needs to thrive and what has worked in other communities. Katrina will reach out to Yelm, Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater to see if any of these communities can offer assistance.
- Discussion on Rezone/Comp Plan amendment
Katrina had no new information to share at this time.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m. Elliott/Turner 5/0



Scott Garrison, Chair