



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
June 22, 2023**

Work Session

1

1 **Call to Order**

2 The meeting was called to order by Whatcom County Planning Commission Chair,
3 Kelvin Barton at 6:31 p.m.

4 **Roll Call**

5 **Present:** Kelvin Barton, Daniel Dahlquist, Jim Hansen, Stephen Jackson, Dominic
6 Mocerri, Scott Van Dalen

7 **Absent:** Atul Deshmane, Julie Jefferson, Kimberley Lund

8 **Staff Present:** Lucas Clark, Cliff Strong, Steve Roberge, and Tammy Axlund

9 **Department Update**

10 Steve Roberge, Assistant Director of Planning and Development Services (PDS),
11 provided an update on Planning Commission recommendations before County Council
12 as follows: Wind Energy is set for public hearing on 07/11, Home Based Business is on
13 hold until at least 7/25, and the Zoning Amendments discussed at our 5/11 meeting
14 were approved with no changes.

15 If we complete the sign regulation topic tonight, we will not meet on 07/13, but will
16 plan to discuss Cherry Point Shoreline Access on 7/27. We are waiting for information
17 from other parties and will not be able to pull it all together sooner. All other items on
18 the docket will be addressed by the Comp Plan Update, except the Lake Whatcom
19 Seasonal Closure Exemption. PDS is working with the City of Bellingham on the
20 language for that.

21 Commissioner Hansen requested information regarding allowable construction impact
22 fees. Mr. Roberge will send the information.

23 **Open Session Public Comment**

24 There was no public comment.

25 **Commissioner Comments**

26 There were no Commissioner comments.

27 **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

28 **Timestamp: 6:34**

29 **Commissioner Dahlquist moved** to approve the meeting minutes from May 25,
30 2023.

31 **Commissioner Mocerri seconded.**

32 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Barton, Dahlquist, Hansen, Mocerri, Van Dalen; Abstain-**
33 **Jackson; (Ayes-5; Nays-0; Abstain-1). The motion carried.**

34 **Sign Regulation Update**

35 **Timestamp: 8:32**

36 Lucas Clark, PDS Long Range Planner provided background information and case law
37 updates regarding sign regulations. He noted that since Whatcom County regulates



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1 signs consistent with the rulings, it is the Planning Department's position that docket
2 item PLN2016-00009 is no longer necessary.

3 Staff responded to Commissioners' questions.

4 **Timestamp: 21:01**

5 **Commissioner Van Dalen moved** to recommend to Council that docket item
6 *PLN2016-00009 be removed from the docket with no further action.*

7 **Commissioner Mocerri seconded.**

8 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Barton, Dahlquist, Hansen, Jackson, Mocerri, Van Dalen;**
9 **(Ayes-6; Nays-0; Abstain-0). The motion carried.**

10 **Unfinished Business**

11 **Timestamp: 22:04**

12 Commissioner Hansen inquired as to the timeline for hiring the consultant for the
13 Comp Plan Update.

14 Mr. Roberge replied that we are waiting for final numbers from the state regarding
15 grant money, but we hope to hire someone in September or October.

16 **Adjournment**

17 The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

18 Minutes prepared by Tammy Axlund.

19 WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ATTEST:

20 

21 Kelvin Barton, Chair



Tammy Axlund, Secretary