



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of Affordable Housing Commission, Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting

October 4, 2023

Time of Meeting

4:30 PM

Place of Meeting

**Council Chambers
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members

Chair Bedsaul called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Present: Sarah Bedsaul, John Perrie, Courtney Garzone, Dan Witkowski, Kim Funston (arrived at 5:00 p.m.)

Absent: Sarah Beauchamp, Jordan Ruhle

Others Present: Jeremy Johnston; Community Development Planning Manager; Kathy Boots, Planning Technician; Dan Carlson; Community Development Director

2. Approval of Agenda

Garzone motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 3-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

Garzone motioned to approve the September 6, 2023 minutes. Motion passed 4-0

4. New Business

Residential Housing Types Review

Johnston reviewed the current Ellensburg City Code Cottage Style housing design standards. He discussed possible code changes to this section regarding changing required parking locations, eliminating 10' of required additional landscaping, reducing covered entry dimensions to be consistent with Single Family Dwellings, eliminating required architectural elements (increased cost), eliminating "are subject to energy efficiency guidelines and standards" (increased cost) to energy efficiency through the building code, and reducing open space size. The Commission suggested garages may face streets and open space be private or shared and not both. Townhome housing design standards were reviewed. Eliminating the required planted area in front of each pedestrian entry of 20 square feet and planting strips would reduce cost and simplify the code. Possibly allowing garages facing the street was discussed. Duplex design standards could eliminate the articulated roof forms to reduce cost. Bedsaul motioned to approve proposed City code changes as outlined in the agenda packet. Motion passed 5-0.

A new Housing and Grants Administrator job description was created, posted, and

applicants were interviewed. Bedsaul expressed concern over the Commission not being part of that process.

5. Unfinished Business

None

6. Citizen Comment

None

7. Staff Update/Discussion Items

On November 6, 2023, there will be a Joint Study Session with the City Council. The study session will be to develop goals and in regards to the Housing Action Plan and how proposals can be screened objectively to evaluate each proposal. Bedsaul explained to staff that there was a screening tool that had been created and used. New Commissioners can be educated on the general process. Bedsaul would like to understand what priorities City Council wants to see in regards a proposed project.

8. Commission Representative Update

None

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.