



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of Affordable Housing Commission, Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting

November 1, 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 4:31 p.m.

Present: Sarah Bedsaul, John Perrie, Courtney Garzone, Dan Witkowski, Kim Funston, Sarah Beauchamp

Absent: Jordan Ruhle

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

2. Approval of Agenda

Perrie motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 6-0

3. Approval of Minutes

Perrie motioned to approve the October 4, 2023 minutes as presented. Motion passed 6-0

4. New Business

-Joint Study Session Prep

Johnston reviewed the plan for the upcoming study session with the City Council on November 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The study session is aimed at getting guidance on what affordable housing type and a timeline the City Council would like to see on the 1st & Pine parcel. The parcel has constraints. Commission members are encouraged to share their experiences and expertise. Johnston will send out a link to the Housing Action Plan.

Garzone relayed to the members the obstacles she sees in her work that students have regarding subsidized housing. There are several current subsidized housing complexes that are approaching the end of their contract for low income rates. The members brainstormed ways they can support developments to continue subsidizing housing units once their contract is over. Garzone will send out an article she saw about Ellensburg being one of the most expensive places to live besides ski resorts.

-Consider Authorizing Affordable Housing Commission Chair to Represent the Commission at League of Women Voters Program, The State of Affordable Housing in Kittitas County, to be held November 14, 2023, at Hal Holmes Center

Garzone motioned to approve Chair Bedsaul to represent the Affordable Housing Commission at the League of Women Voters meeting on November 14, 2023. **Motion passed 6-0.** Bedsaul explained some of the data she is putting together for the presentation. Bedsaul will send staff the PowerPoint of the presentation to be shared with the members. Johnston and Carlson plan to attend and are willing to help get data if needed. Johnston will check with the City Attorney to see if there is a limit of members that can attend or if multiple members can attend to listen to the multiple presentations.

5. Unfinished Business

None

6. Citizen Comment

None

7. Staff Update/Discussion Items

The Catherine Park project will be going before the City Council at their next meeting to discuss the updates regarding the irrigation ditch.

Carlson updated the members on the recent hire of the Grants & Housing Administrator, Lily Frey, who will be starting November 16, 2023. Frey will attend this Commission while being trained and, once trained, she will solely run the Commission.

8. Commission Representative Update

Garzone asked if there are any other City owned properties that could be supplied for Affordable Housing projects.

Bedsaul will reach out to Ruhle who has been absent for several meetings.

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.