

4 Planning Commission By-Laws

- 4.1 Staff Report (For Possible Action – Recommendation to City Council): Staff presentation, discussion, and potential approval of the revised By- laws of the City of Reno Planning Commission, subject to City Council adoption.

Jason Garcia-LoBue, Planning Manager, presented the staff report and stated the proposed changes of the by-laws are administrative in nature.

Disclosures: none Public Comment: none

Questions:

Commissioner Gower referenced proposed language in the second paragraph of Article V Section 7 regarding video conferencing. His interpretation of that language is that the Planning Commission will only be allowed to meet virtually if there is a State of Emergency.

Mr. Garcia-LoBue stated there is flexibility written into the previous paragraph that allows for virtual attendance in specific circumstances that would be outside of a State of Emergency.

Commissioner Gower stated that paragraph is regarding individual participation in a meeting. The second paragraph is for the whole meeting to be held virtually.

Mr. Garcia-LoBue stated there are other amendments in the by-laws that allow for both staff and the Chair to come up with a suitable location and that could be virtual.

Commissioner Johnson asked if language regarding virtual meetings applies to all city meetings.

Mr. Garcia-LoBue stated this is being addressed to all boards and commissions but because of the nature of the Planning Commission and the specific law surrounding that, this is specific to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Johnson referenced Article VI Section 2 regarding opponents, proponents, or other members of the public making presentation, comment, and/or recommendations during public hearings. He asked if this is at odds with how the Planning Commission has heard from members of the public during Public Comment.

Mr. Garcia-LoBue stated that in staff's opinion, that is the three-minute Public Comment period.

Commissioner Johnson stated the way it is written in the by-laws is a little confusing.

Chair Velto asked if other issues in the by-laws can be addressed in the coming months.

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Mr. Garcia-LoBue explained the process for bringing this back in the future to propose additional changes to the by-laws.

Chair Velto expressed concern regarding proposed language that would prohibit a commissioner from being able to join a meeting virtually unless approval is given before 5:00 p.m. the day before the meeting. He asked what would happen if an extenuating circumstance comes up the day of a meeting preventing a commissioner from attending in person.

Mr. Garcia-LoBue stated staff would do their best to make it happen to allow a commissioner to log in remotely.

Discussion:

Angela Fuss, Assistant Director of Development Services, stated she has heard comments about needing additional clarity. The Commission can propose language or have staff make some language changes based on tonight's discussion.

(Commissioner Munoz left the meeting at 8:16 p.m. and returned at 8:19 p.m.)

Commissioner Gower suggested language changes to address comments made today.

There was discussion further clarifying the suggested language changes. Mr. Garcia-LoBue confirmed that he understands the suggested changes.

It was moved by Mark Johnson, seconded by Peter Gower, to approve the revised Planning Commission By-laws and recommend that City Council approve and adopt the same Planning Commission By-laws, as presented in the staff report and modified during Planning Commission discussion . Motion Pass.

RESULT: **Approved [6 TO 0]**

MOVER: Mark Johnson, Commissioner

SECONDER: Peter Gower, Commissioner

AYES: Velto, Johnson, Drakulich, Gower, Munoz, Armstrong

NAYS:

ABSENT: Silvia Villanueva

ABSTAIN:

RECUSED: