Oroville Planning Commission Wednesday, January 20, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 4:48 by Vice Chairman Judy Dunston.

Present: Commissioners: Suzi Seger, Arnie Marchand, Judy Dunston; Absent: Marc Egerton, Luis Perez, and Alternate Valorie Johnston.

Staff present: Chris Branch and Deanna Rowton

Approval of the minutes for the December 2nd meeting. Motion by Arnie Marchand, second by Suzie Seger, motion carried.

Chris Branch reported that the Council re-appointed Luis Perez to his position and they also reappointed Valorie Johnston as an alternate. Arnie made a motion that the Chairman and Vice Chairperson retain their positions for this year. Suzie seconded the motion and it passed.

There was discussion regarding the transportation element of the Comp. Plan. Chris reported that there is a proposed vacation of 9th Street. This vacation would require some reconstruction of the street system in that area which would eventually result in a new public railroad crossing as indicated in the Comprehensive Plan. A draft map was presented which would add more detail to the comprehensive plan since the existing plan identifies the need for a crossing in a location where buildings are now located in the middle of the Oroville R&R facility. He stated that the monies for the reconstruction would come primarily from grant funds. New roads are usually build by the developer, but in this case, where there is benefit to be gained in developing the entire railhead industrial area, the NCW Economic Development District would apply for a US Economic Development Administration grant on behalf of the City, and Oroville Reman & Reload would provide the matching.

Also discussed was the fact that the current Comprehensive Plan, nor the zoning code, addresses lodging for "transient accommodations" in any detail. Specifically: boarding Houses, Hostels, Bed & Breakfasts, and Vacation Rentals are not addressed. There ensued discussion regarding present lodging choices and the other options that could be potential possibilities from the diverse choices in accommodations. The Planning Commission will consider these uses for recommendations at the next meeting.

Arnie reported on a "Joint Neighbors" program that will be happening in the future with Osoyoos, Oroville, and Tonasket. He spoke about having a vision for Canadian Tourism to refer people to coming for Oroville for overnight lodging.

There was discussion regarding the management of the various lodging choices. Also mentioned was that there is nothing that allows dormitory-type accommodations.

As there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.