

Utah Quality Growth Commission Meeting

Wednesday, April 25, 2007, 11:00 AM
Beehive Room, Arsenal Hill Conference Center
East Building, Utah State Capitol Complex
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Agenda

Members Present

Sally Elliot, Summit County
Justin Allen, Centerville City
Laraine Swenson, Logan City
Jaren Davis, Vice Chairman, Coldwell
Banker Real Estate
Flint Richards, Utah Farm Bureau
Ken Mitchell, Utah Homebuilders
Association
Darrell Smith (by phone)
Mike Kohler, Wasatch County

Brent Tanner, Utah Cattlemen's Association
Vice Chairman Jaren Davis will conduct the
meeting

Staff Present

John Bennett
Laura Ault

Visitors

Shauna Kerr, Trust for Public Lands
Darin Bird, DNR, For Mike Styler

1—Welcome and introductions—5 minutes

Each of the Commissioners, Staff and Visitors introduced themselves.

2—Public Comments—5 minutes

Shauna Kerr welcomed everyone. Speaking as a former member she expressed her love for the commission and the work that the Commission does.

3—Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2007 Meeting

Minutes were not ready. They will be approved at the next Commission meeting.

4— Review Bylaws and elect new Commission Officers, John Bennett, 10 minutes

Mr. Bennett explained the bylaws, which state that the Commission may elect officers and reelect them. Jaren Davis discussed his interest in serving. He also explained that the previous Commission had elected Jaren Davis as one of its Vice Chairs so that there would be someone to run this first meeting. But, the Commission now needs to elect a new Chair. Flint Richards nominated Jaren Davis as Chairman, Mike Kohler seconded the nomination, Jaren Davis then nominated Flint Richards as Vice Chairman, Mike Kohler seconded the nomination. They were elected unanimously for a term to expire in April 2009

5— Reorganize Commission and Subcommittees, John Bennett, 10minutes

John Bennett explained that the Critical Lands Subcommittee needed some new members to replace departing members. Flint Richards and Jaren Davis explained that the subcommittee members visit each of the projects Sally Elliot, Laraine Swenson, and Ken Mitchell were added to the Subcommittee along with Flint and Mike Kohler. Mike Kohler was appointed as Chairman of the Critical Lands Subcommittee.

The other two subcommittees are planning grants and Quality Growth Communities. Subcommittee meets at the call of the Chair. Chairman Jaren Davis asked Justin Allen to serve as chairman of the Planning Committee. He defined the task as expanding our outreach and promoting Quality Growth

Communities, as well as doing planning. He felt we need to take some effort to help elected officials know and appreciate the value of what we do for communities. We talk intelligently about critical lands, but we also need to remember the importance of businesses, and housing, and landownership. We need to do quality growth so that these values can be promoted.

Chairman Davis charged Commissioners to get this information, and have the subcommittee work on it.

Mr. Bennett introduced Laura Ault to talk about planning tools. She explained that we have not grant funds this year. So we are trying to get communities engaged in good planning. She introduced SUPER tool. It might have a planning library, planning tool, and education tool into an online format. The Commission is an excellent sponsor because it is so diverse. It will help us to use the resources that are out there.

Chairman Davis explained that the education piece is important so that we can overcome fear of the unknown. He directed the subcommittee to think broadly, and do whatever it takes to get this information. Lifestyle is now more important than location in real estate transactions.

Mike Kohler urged us to make this a resource so that communities have what they need.

Laraine urged us to develop presentations that can go to communities to assist.

Darin Bird pointed out that the State is often just in an advisory role on many of these issues.

Mr. Bennett identified the types of planning that have been done by the Commission. They are General Planning, Critical Lands Planning, and County Resource Management Planning. He mentioned that there are also two other pieces. Planner Education and Public Education.

In addition to Justin, Darrell Smith, Larry Ellertson, and Brent Tanner were appointed to this Committee. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Darrell Smith was contacted by phone to make the ninth vote on these appointments.

LUNCH: Box lunches—20 Minutes

6—Work Plan Discussion—review Quality Growth Act, discuss Commission roles and missions, John Bennett, 20 minutes

Much of these issues have already been discussed in the previous discussion. We will talk about the McAllister Fund in the next item. We will meet with the Political Subdivisions Interim Committee at the next interim meeting.

7—Report on 2007 Funding Round, John Bennett, 10 minutes

The pre-applications are due May 14, 2007. We will consider them at the next meeting.

8—Legislative issues and funding, John Bennett--20 minutes

Need to have some additional meetings with legislators. Invite them to our meetings so they can see the people who are really working. Get lobbyists involved during the session.