



Skagit County Planning Commission

www.skagitcounty.net/planningcommission

Chair Tim Raschko **Vice Chair** Tammy Candler
Members Vincent Henley, Amy Hughes, Jennifer Hutchison, Mark Knutzen, Kathy Mitchell, Martha Rose, Joe Woodmansee

SKAGIT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Planning Commission Agritourism Work Session

June 13, 2023

6:00 PM – 7:53 PM

Please refer to transcript and video recording of Planning Commission meeting for in-depth information about these meeting minutes. Meeting materials, the full transcript, meeting agenda, and referenced video recording of this meeting can be viewed at the Planning Commission Schedule and Agenda page:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/PlanningCommission/PCminutes.htm>

Summary of Meeting

Roll Call

Chair Rashko began the meeting with a roll call.

Tim Raschko: Present

Kathy Mitchell: Present

Mark Knutzen: Present

Amy Hughes: Present

Joe Woodmansee: Absent

Martha Rose: Absent

Tammy Candler: Present

Vincent Henley: Absent

Jennifer Hutchison: Present

Approval of Minutes (5/9/2023)

Chair Rashko introduced the minutes from the last meeting (5/9/2023) for approval. A motion to approve the May 9th meeting minutes was initiated by Commissioner Hughes and was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Remarks

There were no public remarks.

Agritourism Work Session

Sarah Ruether, Long Range Planning Manager, discussed the proposed changes regarding agritourism from the Skagit Agricultural Advisory Committee. The changes include updating relevant definitions, decreasing the amount of permitted temporary events in the Agricultural-Natural Resource Land zone, and amending the process for special use permits related to agritourism. The Planning Commissioners also discussed the current enforcement practices for agricultural activities.

A full transcript of the discussion is available on our website:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/PlanningCommission/PCminutes.htm>

Director's Update

Planning Director, Jack Moore, discussed the permitting process for new battery energy storage systems. There are a few systems which have been proposed in Skagit County. The fire marshal team has published a burn ban in conjunction with neighboring communities, fire districts, and Washington Department of Natural Resources. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is preparing to conduct a traffic study of I-5 from Anderson Road to Cook Road, to evaluate concerns in the area and solutions WSDOT could pursue.

Mr. Moore also updated the Planning Commission on the updated Skagit County building code, approved by the Board of County Commissioners on June 27, 2023. The new code language refers to the Washington State Building Code. The new state building code standards were previously scheduled to be implemented on July 1, 2023, but implementation has been delayed by 120 days to consider ongoing litigation with regards to the energy code changes.

Planning Commission Comments/Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjourned at 7:53 PM

Tim Raschko, Planning Commission Chair

Date

Jack Moore, Secretary

Date