

MINUTES
Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission
Agenda Review Meeting
Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Being true to its mission, in spite of adversity, the Knoxville-Knox County Planning Commission convened on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 11:30 o'clock a.m via remote conferencing, as an accommodation for the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, for the monthly agenda review meeting.

Attending the meeting via a facilitated remote conferencing platform were Planning Commissioners, Gayle Bustin, Patrick Phillips, Tim Hill, Chris Ooten, Elizabeth Eason, Richard Graf, Scott Smith, Mike Crowder, Jeff Roth, and Janice Tocher, Chair of the Planning Commission.

Also in attendance were Gerald Green, Executive Director for the Commission, and various members of Knoxville-Knox County Planning ("Staff") who provide professional, technical, and clerical support to the Commission.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Green at 11:35 o'clock a.m., who noted with great sadness the recent passing of Commissioner Mac Goodwin. Mr. Green reflected on the deep commitment of Dr. Goodwin to making Knoxville and Knox County a better place.

Mr. Green then provided the Executive Director's Monthly Report, which included the following:

1. Arrangements had been previously made with the Chair of County Commission for a workshop with the County Commission on May 18 to discuss opportunities for the control and enhancement of growth for the County. That workshop has been rescheduled to the County Commissions regular workshop meeting in June.
2. In response to the COVID 19 crisis, Staff has been instructed to work from home, unless directed otherwise by their supervisor, The Staff is maintaining a core presence at Staff offices to attend to walk in business. Skills developed by Staff in remote processing in recent months has proven valuable for Staff to continue to process business efficiently.
3. A large number of applications have been received since onset of the pandemic and the social distancing strategy. The May meeting will feature a full agenda.
4. Appreciation was expressed for the adaptability of the Commissioners to the current social distancing circumstances, and they were assured that the essential functions of the Commission and its Staff are continuing apace.

Michelle Portier of Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Item 12 on the Commission's April agenda, and responded to questions. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Graf complained that he was able to hear only about 50% of Ms. Portier's comments.

Commissioner Art Clancy, III joined the meeting at this time.

Liz Albertson of Staff, after a brief struggle with the sharing technology, then explained the Staff recommendations for Agenda Items 7, 8, and 9, and responded to questions.

Ms. Albertson then explained Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 14.

Ms. Albertson then explained Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 16, and responded to questions.

Tom Brechko of Staff then explained the Staff recommendations for Agenda Items 23 and 31, in turn.

Mike Reynolds of Staff then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 25. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Reynolds then explained the Staff recommendation for Agenda Item 26. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Tamara Bower joined the meeting at this time.

Mr. Green then explained the Staff recommendations for Agenda Item 37.

There followed a general discussion regarding the virtual meeting process and tools that would be used at the public meeting on Thursday.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was duly adjourned.

Recording Secretary