

Planning & Development Board

May 30, 2013
Park County, Montana

Attendance: Planning Board Members Rich Baerg, Bill Berg, Dave Haug, Peter Fox; Traci Isaly, Frank Schroeder (via telephone) and Lewis Wilks. Also present were Mike Inman, planning staff; Mary Anne Keyes, MSU Extension; Kerry Fee, PCEC

Call to Order: @ 1:30 p.m., Bill Berg called a meeting to order in the MSU Extension Office in Livingston.

Public Comment on Agenda Items not Scheduled for a Public Hearing: None

Approval of Minutes: The board reviewed minutes for the March 21, 2013, meeting. *Lewis Wilks moved to approve the minutes. Frank Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

Conflict of Interest: None reported

Planning Department

MSU Extension Office Tour and Community/Economic Development

City/County Position Update: Mary Anne Keyes, MSU Extension, said the hiring committee decided to repost the position in question with more emphasis on economic development, as the original job description position announcement was not on target as desired. Keyes said two of three candidates selected for interviews backed out, one because of the low salary offered (up to \$51,500 plus fringe benefits) and one whose husband took a job in Gallatin County. The position was reposted the beginning of May. Screening will begin June 21 with a possible start date the first of September.

CTEP Project Update: Inman said the county received three proposals for Community Transportation Enhancement Program (CTEP) funding, 1) Gardiner sidewalk extension to the rodeo grounds, 2) a new roof for the Yellowstone Gateway Museum building, 3) a park pavilion in Clyde Park, which was ultimately withdrawn. Inman said YGM may request funding for ADA accessibility requirements with remaining funding. Project construction to take place in 2014.

Fleshman Creek Project Update: Inman said FEMA finalized the award of the original grant funds for the project and granted an extension to July 31, 2014. He said the county is in the process of determining what resources it has and will need to obtain to successfully administer the Fleshman Creek and other major upcoming projects.

Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Project Update/Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Opportunity: Inman said a CDBG may again be pursued to create a CIP for Park County.

Gardiner Gateway Project Update: Bill Berg said a formal interview process took place in Gardiner, and a determination as to whether Park County will get a portion or all requested funding for the GGP had been extended until mid July. Berg said the county also applied for a TIGER grant (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) as backup funding in the event Federal Lands Access Grant funds do not come in, or do not come in, in full.

Land Use Outreach Project Update: Inman said a final draft of the countywide land use survey will be ready for dissemination very soon.

Park County Atlas Project Update: Inman said the atlas is in layout stage with talks with photographers, discussion of who will write text, and determination of how to process various types of data (oil and gas and historical).

Paradise Valley Corridor Study: Inman provided a visual of oil and gas leases in Park County. Inman said MDT is conducting the Highway 89 South corridor study from south of Livingston to Gardiner with a focus on safety, wildlife and future development issues. There was discussion about the need to provide extensive public comment and for Park County to take a leadership role in that effort to ensure MDT understands local concerns. Inman said he would keep the board apprised of the local study committee efforts.

Economic Development Update: Peter Fox said the NRMEDD executive committee gave Rob Gilmore a favorable performance evaluation.

Fox asked if the Planning Department could develop a calendar of all upcoming meetings relative to land use planning. Kerry Fee, PCEC, provided a review of an energy development meeting in Clyde Park attended by 20 to 30 individuals, agency personnel and two county commissioners. He said the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology headed the meeting, which is the entity collecting well water-quality data in the Shields per legislative mandate. He said Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) testing will be done, also. Fox said MSU is collecting some surface water quality data in the Shields.

Fee said the website for the corporation that secured all leases in the Shields states lease efforts had been completed. Inman said Park County has the data for every lease in the Shields and the date they expire. Fee said no one was present at the meeting to speak on environmental aspects of oil and natural gas extraction.

Fox said the strong interest in oil and gas leases in the Shields has partially waned, partially due to the glut of natural gas resources elsewhere. He said federal government authorization of offshore sales of natural gas would expedite extraction. He said a contingency plan should be in place to address all issues associated with mass natural resource extraction (water sources, sand sources, housing, road and other infrastructure) in the event extraction comes to fruition in Park County.

Berg said he, Inman and Commissioner Tinsley attended a meeting in Wilsall facilitated by the MSU Local Government Center about future community vision. Attendees said they would like to meet again in August.

Traci Isaly said Livingston is considering a large art fair in September 2014.

Discussion of Next Meeting Agenda: There will be updates of ongoing projects and discussion of legislation passed allowing buildings for lease or rent, which will require planning board recommendation to the Commission separate from subdivision regulations.

Public Comment: Fee said he worked extensively in Arizona on getting bicycle zones along Highway 89 and would be willing to assist a subcommittee effort in Park County.

Adjournment: @3:15 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Bill Berg
Chairman