

**JEROME COUNTY RECREATION ZONE COMMITTEE MINUTES
JULY 7, 2021
THE JACK NELSEN CONFERENCE ROOM, JEROME COUNTY COURT HOUSE**

CALL TO ORDER

Facilitator: Art Brown

Present: Bill Baker, Oscar Carranza, John Reed, Becky Dean and Brett Thompson

Staff Attendees: Nancy Marshall, Administrator; Kacie Buhler, Assistant Administrator; and Julie Lehmann, Administrative Assistant

OPEN DISCUSSION

Art Brown called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The Committee discussed the Minutes from the June 30, 2021 Meeting.

M/S/C John Reed motioned to accept the Minutes as written. Bill Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. John Reed requested a physical copy of last week's minutes.

Public Access Discussion (Tabled for continued conversation with Mike Seib)

Discuss information received from Robert Reeder on electronic signs.

Nancy Marshall presented the information from Robert Reeder regarding electronic signs. She stated that he sent her information from the City of Jerome and the City of Idaho Falls. He told her that all the signs have dimmers on them, so they can be set at different percentages. She said that this is something that they will work into the Development Standards. She stated that the City of Jerome talks about how long the display can be and what percentage of the sign can be digital. She said this is good information and they can use it in the Standards and eventually work it into the Ordinance.

Design and Improvement Standards

Nancy Marshall discussed the Design and Improvement Standards she submitted. Bill Baker asked about 'a participating Public Agency' and 'higher standards'. Art Brown gave the example that the County had standards on fencing along roads. He said the Highway District didn't want people using part of the right-of-way as a feed alley. He stated that was a higher standard than the County had. Nancy Marshall gave the example that if the County allowed a sign on Highway 93, ITD, can overrule that. She stated that sometimes the Agency has lesser standards, and in the Ordinance, it states that the Agency would overrule the County Standards. She said that there may be something in the Rec Zone that they don't want an Agency to overrule, then they would have to add "Chapter 6 doesn't apply". Art Brown asked if they were ok with the opening statement that Nancy Marshall wrote. The Committee agreed.

Lighting

Bill Baker asked about "Dark Sky Friendly". Nancy Marshall stated that it was an actual label on lighting. Bill Baker suggested adding "or equivalent" after "Dark Sky Friendly".

Becky Dean asked about solar panels, stating that they are not nice to look at. Oscar Carranza stated that they talked about solar light for the bus stops. Nancy Marshall said they could say 'solar arrays' as part of a structure. Art Brown asked if they're worried about the look. He said

that they could regulate the solar panels and only allow it on a building or limited to one on the ground. Bill Baker suggested that they couldn't use that across the board for permanent and portable solar panels. Nancy Marshall said that they could put in the Standards that "solar panels would have to be attached to a structure". She stated that in the Ordinance it's called Plant-Energy Producing, Non-Conventional, and it wasn't included in the Rec Zone charts. Oscar Carranza suggested that they differentiate between permanent and portable. John Reed stated that in the Rec Zone, they didn't want a solar farm. Art Brown said that their focus should be on one that is attached to a permanent structure as there was no way to regulate a portable one. Nancy Marshall stated that right now it is allowed by Special Use Permit in the Preservation Zone. She said that applies if the use is primary. She suggested that in their review of Uses they should be listed as Energy Producing Non-Conventional. She stated that there is a definition for it in the Ordinance. Art Brown said that they are talking about someone manufacturing electricity vs the use on a motorhome, and that the County doesn't regulate on-site use. He suggested looking at it in the same way as a power pole. Becky Dean stated that she didn't want to see an array of solar panels on the canyon rim. Oscar Carranza said that the same thing goes for windmills as listed in the definition. Becky Dean stated she wasn't talking about personal use, but like an event center, she doesn't want to see them on the ground. Nancy Marshall stated that they could put "solar panels would have to be integrated into a structure" in for Commercial Uses. Art Brown said that it could be put into the design standards for the different types of uses.

Nancy Marshall asked if they were ok with the first paragraph of Lighting so far. The Committee agreed.

Parking Lighting

She read the Parking Lighting paragraph. She said what she used came out of Chapter 17, the Parking Ordinance. Oscar Carranza suggested changing it to "Illuminated for safety purposes". The Committee agreed.

Illumination of Signs and Illumination from Signs

Nancy Marshall read the paragraph about illumination. She stated that it must follow the Standards for Signage and could be referenced, i.e. see paragraph XX. She asked if everyone was ok with lighting so far.

Bill Baker stated he would like to further discuss solar panels. He said he'd rather have solar panels than power poles. He suggested that they could be hidden by fencing, or other means. He said that the Committee shouldn't limit green power. He stated that they need to be evaluated by Special Use Permits or something. He suggested that they not limit the type of power they can use. Nancy Marshall stated that was a good point. Oscar Carranza suggested that using a generator for several days might not be as good as parking next to an array of solar panels. He continued with, the generator may only be used for a limited amount of time such as when the power was out. Bill Baker stated that the whole aspect is to protect the significance of the Site. He said there are different ways for them to get power. Brett Thompson stated that people will be more innovative because it is in the Rec Zone, there will be different options for alternate energy, and it would be ancillary to the primary use. He doesn't think they would have to worry