

**NORMAN PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

JUNE 14, 2012

The Planning Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers of the Norman Municipal Building, 201 West Gray Street, on the 14th day of June 2012. Notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Norman Municipal Building and online at <http://www.normanok.gov/content/boards-commissions> twenty-four hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Chairman Andy Sherrer called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

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Item No. 1, being:

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dave Boeck
Jim Gasaway
Cynthia Gordon
Diana Hartley
Tom Knotts
Curtis McCarty
Robertta Pailes
Chris Lewis
Andy Sherrer

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

A quorum was present.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Connors, Director, Planning &
Community Development
Jane Hudson, Principal Planner
Ken Danner, Subdivision Development
Manager
Roné Tromble, Recording Secretary
Kathryn Walker, Asst. City Attorney
Larry Knapp, GIS Analyst
Terry Floyd, Development Coordinator
Scott Sturtz, City Engineer
Shawn O'Leary, Director, Public Works
Susan Atkinson, Planner I

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Item No. 13, being:

RESOLUTION NO. R-1112-131 – A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, ADOPTING THE ORIGINAL TOWNSITE NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN AS AN ELEMENT OF THE CITY’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD:

1. Location Map
2. Staff Report
3. Original Townsite Neighborhood Plan (bound separately)

Item No. 14, being:

RESOLUTION NO. R-1112-132 – A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, ADOPTING THE BISHOP CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN AS AN ELEMENT OF THE CITY’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD:

1. Location Map
2. Staff Report
3. Bishop Creek Neighborhood Plan (bound separately)

PRESENTATION BY STAFF:

1. Ms. Atkinson – Thank you for the opportunity to very briefly discuss with you the Bishop Creek and Original Townsite Neighborhood Plans. We were here about a year ago with our last two neighborhood plans, and we've been working on these two during this past 12 months. The neighborhood planning process was established as a goal for the City by the 2025 Plan, so we are consistently doing about two neighborhood plans a year. If you choose to recommend adoption of these two tonight, that will be plans 5 and 6. These get adopted, with your recommendation, into the Norman 2025 Plan as sort of micro-focused views of these neighborhoods. These are policy documents; they do not include regulatory language. Really what they do is just deal with whatever issues are afoot in these two places. Again, the core area includes a large number of neighborhoods. Some of them are CDGB neighborhoods – you are familiar with that program. Some of them are not. In this case, Bishop Creek Neighborhood is just a core area neighborhood. They approached us and asked us if we would work with them, which was a real pleasure to do. We talked a lot in that neighborhood about social organization. Their infrastructure is great. They're a relatively young neighborhood; things are pretty good there; incomes are relatively high. But they need to figure out how to reconnect the social fiber of the neighborhood. Original Townsite is just that – it's the City's oldest neighborhood. It was platted in 1890. So some of the infrastructure needs are much more significant there. The neighborhood plans basically lay out the neighborhood's aspirations for the future, they strengthen a sense of ownership by people participating in the planning process, and they identify a number of projects that could be implemented over the next ten years. Ten years is about the shelf life on a neighborhood plan. We won't really deal too much with the process, although if you have some specific questions I will be glad to answer them. Again, what we're asking you to consider tonight is to recommend adoption of these two neighborhood plans, in which case they will make their way to City Council sometime this summer.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

No one in the audience offered any comments.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. Mr. Boeck – I got to participate in one of these neighborhood plan developments. I actually came up with the name for Bishop Creek. It's a great process. I really appreciated the process. I didn't get to make the first round of meetings, but I did make the second round. I just think that the City, in doing that process, is really doing a service to the neighborhoods in a core area. It probably would work doing it in all neighborhoods, because I think it really helps the neighborhood identify and kind of connect at the social, street level. So thank you.

Chris Lewis moved to recommend adoption of Resolution No. R-1112-131, the Original Townsite Neighborhood Plan, to City Council. Cindy Gordon seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, a vote on the motion was taken with the following result:

YEAS	Dave Boeck, Jim Gasaway, Cynthia Gordon, Diana Hartley, Tom Knotts, Curtis McCarty, Roberta Pailes, Chris Lewis, Andy Sherrer
NAYES	None
ABSENT	None

Ms. Tromble announced that the motion to recommend adoption of Resolution No. R-1112-131 to City Council passed by a vote of 9-0.

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Chris Lewis moved to recommend adoption of Resolution No. R-1112-132, the Bishop Creek Neighborhood Plan, to City Council. Jim Gasaway seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion, a vote on the motion was taken with the following result:

YEAS	Dave Boeck, Jim Gasaway, Cynthia Gordon, Diana Hartley, Tom Knotts, Curtis McCarty, Roberta Pailes, Chris Lewis, Andy Sherrer
NAYES	None
ABSENT	None

Ms. Tromble announced that the motion to recommend adoption of Resolution No. R-1112-132 to City Council passed by a vote of 9-0.

2. Mr. Gasaway – Mr. Chairman, might I say thank you to Susan. It takes a lot more staff time than you would imagine to do one of these and to work with the community, and it's something that's very important for a lot of these neighborhoods. Thank you for your time.

3. Mr. Boeck – It brought up some interesting things in talking about accessibility and, you know, I'm "Mr. Make Norman Age Friendly" and so sidewalks or streets and discussing kids getting to school at Lincoln and we had this discussion, well, we could put in sidewalks, but when we put in sidewalks that means cars – and a lot of these driveways aren't big enough for two cars so, all of a sudden, your back end is sticking out over the sidewalk and you get a ticket, so maybe we don't want sidewalks in our neighborhood. So it's realistic conversations about what makes the neighborhood usable or not usable.

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