

**TOWN OF PATAGONIA**

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MEETING MINUTES**

**August 9, 2022, 6:00 P.M.**

**Zoom Meeting I.D. 957-511-4862 Password 338501**

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Patrick O’Neal, Chairman.

ROLL CALL: Present were Steve Finch, Gerry Isaac, Patrick O’Neal, Georgette Larrouy, Ike Isakson, Nancy McCoy, and Laurie Monti all in person. Absent was Todd Norton. A Quorum is present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE: The Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2022, MEETING:

Motion to Approve minutes of the July 19,, 2022, meeting was made by Steve Finch

Motion was seconded by Georgette Larrouy

Motion was approved unanimously.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: Call to the public was dispensed with as no Public was present either in person or on Zoom.

OLD BUSINESS: REVIEW UPDATES TO DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR THE ETOWN PLAN AND POSSIBLE ACTION RECOMMENDING FINALIZED TOWN PLAN TO THE TOWN COUNCIL:

Gerry Isaac explained that he and Laurie Monti had conducted research and prepared a draft update to the section of the Plan discussing demographic information. Discussion of the draft noted that trends over past years show a decline in younger population and increase in older population in the Town. The Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity projects this trend to continue.to continue. Gerry Isaac suggested, however, that with the increase in mining activity this trend may reverse if mine workers with younger families begin to move into the area. Ron Robinson commented that dynamics like this had occurred over the years. He noted that population had reached a high of about 1,100 when mining and ranching were robust in the 1920s and 1930s, and a low of 546 in the early 1960’s when the mines closed, cattle ranching diminished and the railroad stopped service. By the late 1960s the Town had recovered to about 800 as it refocused on tourism and began to become popular with retirees.

A Motion to approve the updates to the demographic information for the Town Plan, modified to incorporate commentary on age related demographics, and to recommend the finalized Town Plan to the Town Council was made by Georgette Larrouy.

The Motion was seconded by Gerry Isaac.

The Motion was approved unanimously.

Gerry Isaac advised the Committee that Zander and Heidi Ault were planning to open a bicycle repair shop in the old building on the Ted Piper property that they rent. This activity was approved in connection with Use Permit No. 2021-106-35-037-A Issued July 28, 2021. They expect to open the shop on October 1, 2022.

DISCUSS ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Laurie Monti distributed a copy of the role and responsibilities of the Planning and Development Committee as enumerated in Chapter 14 of the Town Code. General discussion ensued regarding the responsibilities, and then focused specifically on Item D.3. “Distribute informational reports in order to arouse public interest and to increase public understanding and knowledge of the Town Plan. It was agreed that more on this responsibility could be accomplished. In addition, several Committee members indicated an interest in learning more about the Planning process, and it was suggested we invite a knowledgeable speaker to address the Committee on this subject in the future.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Arrange for a knowledgeable person to speak with the Committee on Town Planning.
2. Continue to discuss the role and responsibilities of the Committee.

ADJOURN: Motion to Adjourn was made by Georgette Larrouy

Motion was seconded by Gerry Isaac

Motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.