City of Redmond Planning Commission

ANNUAL RETREAT

April 13, 2011 Meeting Summary
Desert Fire 7211 166th Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052

Planning Commissioners in Attendance:
Chair Tom Hinman, Vice Chair Franz Wiechers-Gregory, Phil Miller, Scott Biethan, Tom Flynn

Planning Commissioners Excused:
Robert O'Hara, Passion Julinsey, Vibhas Chandorkar, Canaan Bontadelli

Staff in Attendance:
Robert Odle, Planning Director; Lori Peckol, Policy Planning Manager; Steven Fischer, Principal Planner; Pete Sullivan, Senior Planner/Planning Commission Staff Liaison; Sarah Stiteler, Senior Planner

Guests:
N/A

Call to Order:
Chair Tom Hinman called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda:
The agenda was approved without changes.

Items from the audience
No comments from the audience were made.

Presentation: Design Review Board and Hearing Examiner
Steven Fischer, Principal Planner and staff liaison for both Design Review Board and Hearing Examiner, provided an overview of both entities, including: powers and duties; history; purpose; scope; and recent projects. The Planning Commission commented and asked questions.

Presentation: Comprehensive Planning and Growth Management Act
Rob Odle, Planning Director, provided an overview of the Washington State Growth Management Act and Comprehensive Planning, which covered: purpose of local government planning; state authority and administrative framework; pre and post-Growth Management Act conditions; structure of the Act; regional and local planning contexts; and the scope and authority of Redmond's Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission commented and asked questions.

Process improvement:

- **Debrief Package 1 Amendments**
  The Planning Commission and staff members commented on the Commission's recent simultaneous review of four Comprehensive Plan elements, including pros and cons of the combined review technique, and potential procedural improvements, such as providing staff guidance earlier regarding recommended approach to review the packet and potentially asking as the Commission is half-way through review whether there are any new issues.

- **PC-Staff Coordination**
  The Planning Commission and staff members commented on the logistics of the above process, such as appointing Planning Commission leads for project review. Additional non-project comments were made, such as e-mail communication (some Commissioners unlikely to see Wednesday emails), and that it is helpful to have references to information provided in earlier packets. Commissioners also commented on the importance of keeping briefings concise.

Election of Chair

Tom Hinman was elected Planning Commission Chair by a vote of 5-0.

Election of Vice Chair

Franz Wiechers-Gregory was elected Vice Chair by a vote of 5-0.

Work Program / Goals for upcoming year

Planning Commissioners and staff discussed 2012 work plan items, including: training opportunities; community outreach strategies; and revised procedures for Planning Commissioners per Redmond Municipal Code.

Commissioner talk time

Planning Commissioners made closing remarks relating to: accomplishments over the previous year; interest in being involved earlier on topics such as the Redmond Central Connector; interest in SE Redmond area planning and transportation connections; upcoming joint Commission/Council meeting opportunities (after the Comprehensive Plan is updated); ideas for future Planning Commission briefings (Green Building 101, HEAL Grant, Sustainable Communities Grant, new Zoning Code and remaining topics list from code rewrite); and ideas for future community events (report back to the community after the Comprehensive Plan is updated).

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

Summary prepared by:

Pete Sullivan, Senior Planner / Planning Commission Staff Liaison