OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARQUETTE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
February 02, 2021

A regular meeting of the Marquette City Planning Commission was duly called and held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2nd, 2021 by remote means (due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

ROLL CALL
Present: Chair J. Cardillo, A. Andres, M. Dunn, S. Mittlefehldt*, W. Premeau, Vice-Chair M. Larson
Absent: E. Brooks

AGENDA

It was moved by M. Larson, seconded by A. Andres, and carried 6-0 to approve the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of January 19th were approved by consensus.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
No certain or potential conflicts of interest were expressed.

WORK SESSION
A. Election of Officers and nomination of BZA Representative

City Planner, Zoning Administrator, and Planning Commission Secretary D. Stensaas stated that the Planning Commission Bylaws call for the election of officers for the next year at the first meeting in February, and that the way it will work is that anyone can nominate someone as Chair or Vice-Chair, and if that person is willing to serve that role they will get a vote, and votes will follow the nominations. He stated that they will first complete the voting for Chair and then move to Vice-Chair and asked if there are any nominations for Chair.

A. Andres stated that he would like to nominate himself for Chair. M. Larson stated that he would like to nominate J. Cardillo for Chair. J. Cardillo stated that she would be willing to serve as Chair again.

D. Stensaas stated those in favor of A. Andres for chair say aye. There were two votes for A. Andres.
D. Stensaas stated those in favor of J. Cardillo for chair say aye. There were four votes for J. Cardillo, and J. Cardillo thus will be Chair.

D. Stensaas asked if there are any nominations for Vice-Chair. M. Dunn stated that he would like to nominate M. Larson if he is willing. M. Larson indicated with a thumbs up that he was willing to serve again. D. Stensaas stated those in favor of M. Larson for Vice-Chair say aye. There were six votes for M. Larson.

D. Stensaas stated the next thing is to nominate a representative to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), and that ideally it would be someone different each year. He also stated that during the last year there were only about six BZA meetings, which is hopefully a sign that the Land Development Code is having a positive impact. He also asked if there are any volunteers to serve on the BZA. M. Dunn stated that he would be willing to serve on the BZA for another year if nobody else wants to. M. Larson stated that he put in two years as the BZA representative as well. D. Stensaas asked if anyone is willing to make a motion to recommend M. Dunn to the City Commission as the representative to the BZA.

It was moved by M. Larson, seconded by A. Andres and carried 6-0 to nominate M. Dunn to be the BZA representative for the next year.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS

J. Cardillo stated that she had spoken recently with MarqTran board member Taylor Klipp and he is willing to come in and talk with the PC members about things happening with transit and the agency if it would be helpful to the group.

M. Dunn stated that, relative to the Strategic Planning initiatives that we discussed, he was wondering how the process would be determined for creating committees, if that is acted on. D. Stensaas stated that it is up to the City Commission to determine the composition of any ad-hoc committees that they approve of establishing.

W. Premeau stated that the buildings that the Veridea group are buying on Front St. may partially be in the right-of-way. He also stated that the Ad-hoc Affordable Housing Committee is making suggestions for changing zoning to allow duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes in all residential districts. D. Stensaas stated that the Ad-hoc Committee is meeting tomorrow at 5:15 p.m. with the City Commission for a work session on their first report – and you can watch the livestream on YouTube – and that they have been doing mainly research up to this point and any recommendations they make in their final report that is going to come out in June will need to go through community input processes and what they are suggestion at this point are just ideas that have to be evaluated further, and any suggested zoning changes would need to come through the Planning Commission process and the City Commission process and that would have a lot of opportunities for public input.

D. Stensaas stated that there is no business for the next meeting date, and there may not be any for the first March meeting date, and he wanted to discuss options for work sessions at those meetings. He stated that he has started making a list of changes that may be in order when the Community Master Plan is updated, and when that process begins is an issue for discussion. He stated that the Plan was updated in 2018, and the 2015 update was a major overhaul to the Plan, so he thinks that tweaks are probably more likely in order rather than major revisions. He also stated that until the local data from the Census is available it would not make sense to update the Plan, and that is hopefully going to be available in about a year, but that there are some issues that they could begin to work on or that he can start working on himself. The Planning Commission discussed the issue of the next Master Plan update and other options for work sessions at upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned by Vice-Chair M. Larson at 6:35 p.m.

Prepared by:

David Stensaas
David Stensaas, City Planner and Zoning Administrator
Planning Commission Secretary