

Siskiyou County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
August 16, 2023

The Siskiyou County Planning Commission meeting of August 16, 2023, was called to order by Chair Lindler at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 311 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor, Yreka, California.

Present: Commissioners Hart, Melo, Fowle, Veale, and Lindler

Absent: Janine Rowe, Commission Clerk

Also Present: Rick Dean, Director, Community Development Department; Hailey Lang; Rachel Jereb, Senior Planner; Bernadette Cizin, Assistant Planner; William Carroll, Deputy County Counsel; Andrea Fox, Code Enforcement Officer

Unscheduled Appearances: None

Conflict of Interest Declaration: None

Presentation of Documents, Availability of Public Records, and Public Hearing

Protocol: The Chair asked those members of the public present in the meeting room as well as those present via teleconference to review these items on the Agenda.

Rights of Appeal Statement: The Chair directed those present to review the Right of Appeal Statement contained in the Agenda.

Changes to the Agenda: None

Minutes: Commissioner Melo mentioned that he was not in attendance of the May Planning Commission meeting. It was moved by Commissioner Fowle, seconded by Commissioner Hart, to approve the Minutes from the May 17, 2023, Planning Commission meeting.

Voted upon and the Chair declared the motion carried unanimously by those Commissioners present.

New Business:

Agenda Item 1: Block-Skelton Boundary Line Adjustment (BLA-23-05) / Categorically Exempt

The applicant requests approval of a minor boundary line adjustment to merge two existing legal parcels creating a single parcel with double frontage. The project site is located between Glacier Drive and Widow Springs Drive, in the Mt. Shasta McCloud Subdivision, northeast of the unincorporated community of McCloud on APNs 101-061-030 and 101-061-060; T40N, R2W, §15, MDB&M; 41.3151°, -122.0647°.

**Categorically Exempt
Tentative Parcel Map**

**Approved
Approved**

Staff Report:

The previously circulated Staff Report was reviewed by the Commission, and a presentation of the project was provided by Ms. Jereb.

Ms. Jereb told the Commission that the applicant was requesting approval of a boundary line adjustment to merge existing parcels so the septic infrastructure in place would not cross parcel lines. Due to the resultant parcel having double frontage, this boundary line adjustment is required to be approved by the Planning Commission.

The project is consistent with the General Plan and zoning for its area and is proposed to be exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15305(a). No comments from the public were received but comments were received from Environmental Health and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) which were included in the staff report along with staff's response.

Ms. Jereb recommended determining the project categorically exempt and approving the boundary line adjustment.

Agency Input: None

The Chair opened the Public Hearing.

Public Comments: None

There being no comments, the Chair closed the Public Hearing.

Commission Discussion/Questions:

Commissioner Hart asked if the applicant owned the adjacent/nearby parcels identified on the site plan. Ms. Jereb noted that the applicant does own adjoining parcels. Commissioner Hart also asked if the only reason we are seeing this boundary line adjustment is due to the double frontage. Ms. Jereb confirmed that was the reason this boundary line adjustment is before the Commission.

Motion: Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Melo, seconded by Commissioner Hart, to Adopt Resolution PC 2023-011, A Resolution of the Planning Commission of the County of Siskiyou, State of California, Determining the Project Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act and Approving the Block-Skelton Boundary Line Adjustment (BLA-23-05).

Voted upon and the Chair declared the motion carried unanimously by those Commissioners present.

Items for Discussion/Direction:

Agenda Item 2: Discussion, direction and possible action regarding whether or not to continue allowing remote attendance of Planning Commission meetings through Zoom.

Staff Report: Ms. Lang introduced this item for discussion, noting that the Commission had asked to bring forward this item to determine if they should continue to allow remote attendance of Planning Commission meetings via Zoom.

Commission Questions/Discussion:

Commissioner Veale noted that he felt neutral about allowing or not allowing remote attendance.

Chair Lindler asked Mr. Carroll what the legal ability to continue Zoom was, and what the Commission's options were.

Mr. Carroll stated that the Commission can allow attendance via Zoom or go with the Board of Supervisors option in which they allow for broadcast of the meetings via Zoom but do not allow for comments to be taken over Zoom. He explained that the third option would be to not allow for Zoom whatsoever. He also noted that there is no particular good or bad option in a legal sense.

Commissioner Fowle noted that he supports what the Supervisors have done by not allowing public comment to be taken over Zoom. Commissioner Melo explained that if he has to be in person for these meetings, that the public needs to be as well if they want to provide comment. Commissioner Hart agreed with both Commissioner's Fowle and Melo. Chair Lindler noted that she supports the broadcasting option so people can know the process and be involved. She explained that public comments need to be addressed in person because it is better to have dialogue with someone in person, and that often times it is hard to hear comments over Zoom. She also asked Mr. Carroll on whether or not we needed to vote on this in order to move forward with the recommendation to allow for Zoom for broadcasting only.

Mr. Dean clarified that the Board is still allowing comments to be taken over Zoom. Mr. Carroll apologized and stated that the Commission can still move forward with the broadcasting only option, even if the Board is still allowing public comment to be taken over Zoom. Chair Lindler stated that regardless of what the Board is doing, we need to have public comment in person. She asked if the Commission needed to provide a motion. Mr. Carroll stated that they could make a motion and formally direct staff to broadcast Zoom only. Commissioner Melo asked if it's good or bad to allow for the broadcast only option. Mr. Carroll noted that it's neither good nor bad.

Ms. Jereb mentioned that Anne Marsh was on the call and asked the Commission on whether or not to allow her to comment on this item. Chair Lindler allowed for Ms. Marsh to provide comment.

Ms. Marsh stated that she likes the option to provide comment over Zoom because she is handicapped and it's difficult for her to attend meetings in person. She mentioned that she hopes the Commission will allow for public comment to be taken over Zoom for larger projects such as Kidder Creek Orchard Camp.

Chair Lindler asked the Commission how they would like to move forward with Zoom.

Commissioner Fowle directed staff to create a Resolution formalizing that Planning Commission meetings will be broadcasted via Zoom and that public comments will be returned to in person, email, or written.

Miscellaneous:

- 1. Future Meetings:** The next regular meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Lindler asked staff for an update regarding the joint Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission meeting that is scheduled for August 29, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Lang mentioned that the joint meeting will be held in the Board Chambers and the meeting will be conducted by the consultants completing the General Plan Update, Mintier Harnish. She stated that the purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the update, deliverables, and other high-level items. Ms. Lang also invited the Commissioners to attend a county tour event which is a part of the General Plan Update, to provide the consultants with geographic context of the County.

2. Correspondence: None

3. Staff Comments: Ms. Lang provided the Commission with an update on events involving the General Plan update. Ms. Jereb noted that Ms. Bernadette Cizin has been promoted to Associate Planner.

4. Commission Comments: Commissioner Veale noted the news article pertaining to the lawsuit with the American Civil Liberties Union, Asian Law Caucus.

Mr. Carroll explained the rescission of the water truck ordinances per the lawsuit settlement. Commissioner Veale asked Counsel if the County appealed the lawsuit. Mr. Carroll noted that the County did not because the case was settled out of court.

Commissioner's Hart and Fowle then discussed the groundwater issues within the County.

Adjournment: The meeting was concluded at approximately 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on File

Hailey Lang, Secretary