

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall, Bloomington, Indiana on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 6:30pm with Council President Susan Sandberg presiding over the Organizational Meeting of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
January 10, 2018

Roll Call: Sturbaum, Ruff, Chopra, Granger, Sandberg, Volan, Piedmont-Smith, Sims, Rollo
Absent: None

ROLL CALL [6:31pm]

Council President Susan Sandberg gave a summary of the agenda.

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes for approval at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Chris Sturbaum said he believed there was treason, not collusion.

REPORTS

- COUNCIL MEMBERS
[6:34pm]

Councilmember Steve Volan said that he would not seek to be the Council representative on the Solid Waste Management District Board because he had lost confidence in the leadership of that body and its executive director. He believed that his replacement would bring fresh ideas and eyes, and hoped they would not find it as disappointing as he had.

Sandberg reminded people that with the start of the new year it was time for people to submit applications for boards and commissions if they would like to be appointed or reappointed.

Denise Lessow, Chair of the Commission on Aging, gave the commission's annual report.

- The MAYOR AND CITY
OFFICES [6:37pm]

Councilmember Dave Rollo encouraged the members of the commission to attend the meetings for the update of the city's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) in the future.

Lessow said she appreciated the invitation and said that the commission hoped to be involved.

Volan asked for a more in-depth description of dementia-friendliness.

Lessow explained that there were workshops that helped to build awareness for the community so they understand how to help others who are suffering from dementia.

Councilmember Isabel Piedmont-Smith asked if the commission had received the data requested from the community survey.

Lessow said it was a complicated issue and that the commission was working with city staff.

Councilmember Dorothy Granger thanked Lessow and shared her gratitude for the entire commission.

Councilmember Allison Chopra asked if the commission heard from older citizens about the need for a community space.

Lessow said that the commission had heard the need and was trying to document the exact nature of the need for a community space.

There were no committee reports at this meeting.

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Tia Arthur and Kristin Bishay spoke about Monroe County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

- PUBLIC

Volan moved and it was seconded that the following slate of officers be elected: ELECTION OF OFFICERS [7:05pm]

President: Dorothy Granger
Vice President: Isabel Piedmont-Smith
Parliamentarian: Steve Volan

The slate was approved by a voice vote.

The councilmembers took new seats as assigned by the new president. Council President Granger presided for the remainder of the meeting and presented outgoing President Sandberg with a gavel to commemorate her term as president.

Sandberg thanked Granger for serving as her Vice-president in the preceding year and said she was happy to pass the leadership to Granger. Sandberg said she was looking forward to the upcoming year and thanked her colleagues.

Sandberg moved and it was seconded that Council appointments to the following list of Boards and Commissions be approved: APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS [7:09pm]

Citizens Advisory Committee-Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)-Social Services **Sandberg**
CDBG-Physical Improvements **Ruff**
Commission for Bloomington Downtown **Sturbaum**
Economic Development Commission (City) **Granger**
Economic Development Commission (County) **Chopra**
Environmental Resource Advisory Committee **Rollo**
Metropolitan Planning Organization **Piedmont-Smith**
Plan Commission **Sandberg**
Solid Waste Management District **Piedmont-Smith**
Urban Enterprise Association Board **Sturbaum**
Utilities Services Board **Sims**
Bloomington Economic Development Corporation **Sims**
Bloomington Commission on Sustainability **Rollo**
Parking Commission **Volan**
PS LIT Allocation Committee **Granger, Piedmont-Smith, Sandberg, and Sims**

The nominations were approved by a voice vote.

Granger appointed the following councilmembers to the Council Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee: **Chopra (Chair), Granger, Piedmont-Smith, Ruff, and Sandberg**

Granger appointed the following councilmembers to the Council Sidewalk Committee: **Granger (Chair), Rollo, Sims, Sturbaum**

President Granger noted that the Board and Commission Interview Committee assignments would remain the same:

A- **Chopra, Sims, Sturbaum**
B- **Granger, Volan, Ruff**
C- **Piedmont-Smith, Rollo, Sandberg**

Rollo moved and it was seconded to reappoint Gwendolen White to the Commission on Sustainability. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Rollo moved and it was seconded to reappoint Sam Frank and Jeff Ehman to the Utilities Service Board. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Rollo moved and it was seconded to reappoint Matthew Hanauer to the Commission on the Status of Children and Youth. The motion was approved by voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (*cont'd*)

Rollo moved and it was seconded to reappoint Jim Blickensdorf and Faith Hawkins to the Parking Commission. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Chopra moved and it was seconded to reappoint Darcie Fawcett to the Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association. The motion was approved by voice vote.

There was no legislation for first reading.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

Clerk's Note: On August 29, 2017, the Common Council called to order a Special Session, which began the Council's consideration of Resolution 17-28 to be completed over a series of meetings. At its meeting on October 24, 2017, the Council adopted a motion to extend its deliberations of Resolution 17-28. Please refer to the minutes from those meeting for a description of the procedure for consideration of the resolution and amendments thereto.

REINTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION PROPOSING ADOPTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS CARRIED-OVER FROM DECEMBER 5, 2017 MEETING OF THE SPECIAL SESSION, AND OTHER RELATED ACTIONS

Volan moved and it was seconded that Resolution 18-01 be introduced and read by title and synopsis only. The motion was approved by voice vote. City Clerk Nicole Bolden read the legislation by title and synopsis.

Resolution 18-01 – To Adopt the City's Comprehensive Plan

Volan moved and it was seconded to: affirm and ratify all actions taken in regard to the Comprehensive Plan (Plan) in 2017; this includes, but is not limited to, actions regarding the disposition of amendments – including all votes taken by the Council, manner of the deliberations – including motions regarding the conduct of the meetings, and proposed schedule for deliberations into the new year; continue deliberations in the same manner on either Regular or Special Sessions in 2018; this includes, among other things, having the Council take up the Comprehensive Plan as part of the Organizational Meeting this evening, without convening a Special Session and, in future weeks, at either Regular or Special Sessions, giving the President the power to approve the Regular Session agendas to account for deliberations on the Comprehensive Plan, considering the Comprehensive Plan in seriatim (i.e. one part at a time and then as a whole, with the entire document open to amendment), and allow the Council to amend its procedures or schedule in regard to these deliberations by a simple majority vote (rather than a two-thirds majority required as a Suspension of the Rules).

The motion received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote on motion [7:18pm]

Piedmont-Smith introduced and explained the amendment.

Amendment 112

Scott Robinson, Planning Services Manager, said the language staff had concerns about in the amendment had been removed.

Volan asked if an option was to ask the Plan Commission to grant fewer height waivers.

Council Questions:

Piedmont-Smith said that the amendment did not help or hinder the process of allowing taller heights in exchange for some community benefit. She felt that tighter standards for granting height variances could be addressed in the upcoming UDO process.

Amendment 112 (cont'd)

Volan asked if the amendment removed encouragement for building heights.

Piedmont-Smith agreed that was correct.

Volan asked Robinson to clarify his earlier statement.

Robinson said the revised amendment still encouraged increased density, which he thought was consistent with the vision of the downtown area.

Rollo asked if staff had objections to the amendment.

Robinson said they supported it as revised.

Piedmont-Smith apologized for not getting the revision to Robinson earlier.

Sturbaum asked if the original language for the downtown core was based on the UDO and if that was why the height was capped at 50 feet.

Robinson said that was correct but that he had referenced the Downtown Vision and Infill Strategy Plan, which did not specify heights but encouraged increased heights and density.

Sturbaum said he was pleased that staff supported the amendment.

Jan Sorby spoke in favor of the amendment.

Public Comment:

Volan said that developers used taller buildings as an example as to why they should be allowed to build higher than the set standards. He thought the amendment was an important step in curbing future height waivers.

Council Comment:

Sturbaum was glad the amendment removed some language in the Plan.

Piedmont-Smith clarified the meaning of "diversify density calculations".

The motion to adopt Amendment 112 received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote on Amendment 112 [7:33pm]

Sturbaum introduced and described the amendment.

Amendment 36-R

Piedmont-Smith asked what "mixed density development" was.

Council Questions:

Sturbaum said it was anything other than single-family.

Piedmont-Smith asked if the term meant higher density.

Sturbaum said he was summarizing for the sake of brevity.

Robinson said that the first sentence of the amendment was unclear and suggested additional wording.

Sturbaum said he did not agree.

Robinson explained that if the first sentence designated the urban corridor then the second sentence would not be necessary.

Sturbaum said he did not see a problem with the amendment as written.

Piedmont-Smith agreed with staff that the amendment was not clear and asked Sturbaum where the increased density was desired.

Sturbaum said that the increased density needed to be sensitive to the environment around it.

Volan asked how the revised amendment differed from the original submission, even with the suggested changes.

Amendment 36-R (cont'd)

Sturbaum said that the two sentences suggested that increased density was better in neighborhoods other than single-family neighborhoods.

Volan asked Attorney Dan Sherman for clarification of the language in the amendment and said he would wait for the answer while other questions were asked.

Chopra said the amendment felt elitist.

Sturbaum said the language was meant to be guidance for the UDO update.

Sherman read the language Volan asked for.

Rollo asked if staff was comfortable with the phrasing.

Robinson said that it was fine.

Ruff asked if Sturbaum would change the language back to what Sherman had just read.

Sturbaum said that he would.

Volan asked for the vote on Amendment 36.

Sherman said that it was not introduced.

Ruff asked for more clarification on staff's opinion.

Robinson said that staff was not opposed to the amendment but thought it needed more clarification.

Volan moved and it was seconded to adopt Amendment 01 to Amendment 36-R.

Amendment 01 to Amendment 36-R

Volan suggested new language for the amendment, which read as follows, "In order to preserve the character of existing single-family neighborhoods, this increased residential density and diversity in housing types should be located outside those neighborhoods."

Sturbaum said he would accept the language as a friendly amendment.

Granger asked Robinson if he was happy with the change in the amendment.

Robinson said that it addressed his concerns.

Sims asked where the amendment applied.

Robinson said that it applied to the urban corridor, which was in the map that was displayed.

Volan asked staff if they supported the amendment and if it precluded the building of mixed-use housing.

Robinson said that it made sense and that further details would be worked out in the UDO.

Piedmont-Smith asked if there were any single-family residential districts in the urban corridor area.

Robinson said there were some fuzzy areas but changes would be made through the UDO.

Jon Lawrence spoke in favor of the amendment.

Public Comment:

Jan Sorby spoke in favor of the amendment.

Sturbaum thanked Volan for making the amendment better.

Amendment 36-R (cont'd)
Council Comment:

Piedmont-Smith said she did not think the amendment made a difference, but she supported it because it did not cause any harm.

Volan spoke about the amendment and said that he supported the amendment.

The motion to adopt Amendment 01 to Amendment 36-R received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote on Amendment 01 to Amendment 36-R [8:11pm]

Jon Lawrence told the Council to go for it.

Public Comment:

The motion to adopt Amendment 36-R as amended received a roll call vote of Ayes: 9, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0.

Vote on Amendment 36-R as amended [8:12pm]

There were no additional public comments.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was extended discussion on the upcoming Council schedule.

COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Piedmont-Smith moved and it was seconded to cancel the Committee of the Whole previously scheduled to immediately follow the Organizational Meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote.


The meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.


ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana upon this 29 day of March, 2017.

APPROVE:

ATTEST:


Dorothy Granger, PRESIDENT
Bloomington Common Council


Nicole Bolden, CLERK
City of Bloomington

Attachment: Board and Commission Interview Team Members for 2018

BOARD AND COMMISSION -- INTERVIEW COMMITTEE¹ ASSIGNMENT GRID 2018

Committee →	A Allison, Jim & Chris	B Dorothy, Steve & Andy	C Isabel, Dave & Susan
↓ Boards and Commissions			
Animal Care and Control Commission	X		
Bloomington Arts Commission			X
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Commission		X	
Bloomington Digital Underground Advisory Committee		X	
Board of Zoning Appeals	X		
Commission on Aging	X		
Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs			X
Commission on the Status of Black Males		X	
Commission on the Status of Women		X	
Commission on Sustainability			X
Commission on the Status of Children and Youth			X
Economic Development Commission	COUNCIL		
Environmental Commission		X	
Historical Preservation Commission	X		
Housing Quality Appeals Board	X		
Housing Trust Fund Board			X
Human Rights Commission			X
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Commission		X	
Parking Commission			X ²
Public Transportation Corporation	X		
Redevelopment Commission	X		
Telecommunications Council		X	
Traffic Commission		X	
Tree Commission			X
Urban Enterprise Association	X		
Utilities Service Board			X

¹ The three Board and Commission Interview Committees are Standing Committees of the Council enabled by Res 13-04 To Consolidate the Council Board and Commission Interviewing and Nominating Committees. Res 13-04 assigned the interviewing responsibility for each board and commission to a specific Interviewing Committee.

² The Parking Commission was established with adoption of Res16-41 and the duty to make recommendations regarding citizen appointments to the Council was delegated to Interviewing Committee C by adoption of a motion at the Organizational Meeting on January 11, 2017.