

Minutes - Goshen Plan Commission  
Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 4:00 pm  
Council Chambers, 111 E. Jefferson Street  
Goshen, Indiana

**I.** The meeting was called to order with the following members present: Connie Garber, Aracelia Manriquez, James Wellington, Jim McKee, Joe McCorkel, Leslie Biek, John King and Tom Holtzinger. Also present were City Planner Rhonda Yoder and Assistant City Attorney James Kolbus. Absent: Rolando Ortiz

**II.** 2018 Plan Commission Appointments

- *Connie Garber – Annual appointment by the Board of Public Works & Safety*
- *Tom Holtzinger – Citizen member re-appointed by the Mayor for a term of four years, 1/1/18-12/31/21*
- *Joe McCorkel – Citizen member re-appointed by the Mayor for a term of four years, 1/1/18-12/31/21*

**III.** Plan Commission Appointment to BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals)

- *Aracelia Manriquez, Current Term 1/1/14-12/31/17*

*Action:*

A motion was made and seconded, Holtzinger/McKee, to appoint Aracelia Manriquez as the Plan Commission representative to the Board of Zoning Appeals. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**IV.** Election of Officers for 2018

- *President*
- *Vice President*
- *Secretary*

*Action:*

A motion was made and seconded, Holtzinger/King, to reappoint Connie Garber as President, Jim McKee as Vice-President and Tom Holtzinger as Secretary. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**V.** Approval of minutes of 11/21/17 – Holtzinger/King 8-0

**VI.** The Zoning/Subdivision Ordinances and Official Staff Reports were unanimously filed into record: Holtzinger/Wellington 8-0

**VII.** Postponements/Withdrawals  
None

**VIII.** *Audience Items*  
None

**IX.** *Staff/Board Items*

- *Elkhart and Goshen Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan*

Ms. Biek distributed copies of the Elkhart and Goshen Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. She stated that Goshen and Elkhart both applied for this grant and the Indiana Department of Health suggested the two combine and make this a joint project. She explained that MACOG stepped up as a liaison and after obtaining requests for proposals Alta Planning + Design was selected to help the two cities through the process.

Three public meetings were held. One meeting was held in both Elkhart and Goshen. A joint third meeting was held to present the collected data to the public. The information was also made available through the internet so people could provide comments.

Ms. Biek gave a brief overview of the master plan, highlighting the following:

- Objectives (page 5) – What are the goals, what roadblocks might there be, and what type of funding is available.
- Existing Conditions Analysis (page 11) – Existing road maps were reviewed, existing language in existing plans, and in existing ordinances. The transit network was reviewed, along with both biking and walking.
- Section 3 – Public Engagement (page 39) – Explains public meetings and what the public’s concerns were. Survey results (page 43) were also discussed.
- Goshen Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Recommendations (page 60) – The maps show the existing bike and pedestrian access as well as recommended new paths.
- Program Recommendations (page 63) – Recommendations were developed for education, encouragement, evaluation, and enforcement. Each of these areas was reviewed and possible programs were suggested to meet the recommendations.
- Infrastructure Implementation – Goshen recommendations begin with a map on page 81 which lists the priorities. Following pages list high, medium and low priority projects. The recommendations are prioritized based on 11 criteria.

Ms. Biek stated the plan is to approve this as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and that proposal will be made at the next meeting. She explained she will ask MACOG to be present at the next meeting to answer any questions.

Mr. Wellington asked if any action is required from the Plan Commission today.

Ms. Yoder responded no action is required today, but amendments to the Comprehensive Plan are adopted like the Comprehensive Plan itself, which requires a public hearing at the Plan Commission with approval/acceptance by the City Council. She stated she felt it was feasible to hold the public hearing at the next Plan Commission meeting and that having a representative from MACOG at the meeting would be beneficial.

Mr. Holtzinger questioned a story he read in the paper regarding a new Elkhart County bike path and asked if it ties into any path in Goshen or Elkhart.

Ms. Biek stated Elkhart County is doing one near the new County Road 17.

Mr. McKee stated he thinks Mr. Holtzinger is referring to Quaker Trace.

Natasha Kauffmann, Redevelopment Program Coordinator for Elkhart County, 4230 Elkhart Road, spoke. She stated in order to complete the 40 mile loop that would connect the Pumpkinvine and MapleHeart Trail, the proposed Quaker Trace Trail on County Road 8 will connect Elkhart and Bristol, with plans for it to continue between Bristol and Middlebury. She stated the only other bike path she’s aware of is the connector between the MapleHeart Trail and the trail near Dunlap.

Ms. Yoder asked Commission members to look over the proposed Master Plan and to contact Ms. Biek with any questions. We will plan to move forward with the public hearing at the next meeting.

Mr. McKee voiced his concerns that the Taco Bell, located on the outlot in front of Meijer has been built and part of the approval was the requirement that they install a sidewalk. To date, the sidewalk has not been installed. He pointed out the City spent \$125,000 to purchase property in front of Lowes to install sidewalks and Taco Bell needs to complete this project.

Ms. Yoder replied that Taco Bell has been contacted and after reviewing the minutes and discussing with the Taco Bell representative that was here, this was originally presented as a City project and Taco Bell would

reimburse the City. She stated she felt the ball was dropped during the personnel change in the Engineering Department. She went on to say the information on the Taco Bell requirements has been provided to the Engineering Department for follow up and includes not only the sidewalks, but also the traffic improvements on Ferndale Road.

- *Residency form for Tom Holtzinger, Citizen Member Re-Appointment*
- *Residency form for Joe McCorkel, Citizen Member Re-Appointment*

Ms. Yoder noted for the record that the Planning Office has received signed residency forms from Tom Holtzinger and Joe McCorkel.

**X.**     *Adjournment* – 4:25 pm     Wellington/Holtzinger

Respectfully Submitted:

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Lori Lipscomb, Recording Secretary

Approved By:

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Connie Garber, President

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Tom Holtzinger, Secretary