

GEM Committee Minutes – May 5, 2010

1. Attendance: Paul DeLong, Jim Ormsbee, Steve Clarke, Laura Warburton, Sharon Zini, Larry Zini, Richard Webb, Lowell Peterson, Jennifer Graham, Sharon Holmstrom, Ross Mertlich, Linda Burton, Jeff Burton. Guests: Kerry Gibson, Mayor Jim Truett, another guest whose name I did not obtain.
2. The Nominating Committee consisting of Lowell Peterson, Jim Ormsbee, and Shanna Francis was announced. Laura Warburton volunteered to join the committee. They will work on candidates for the positions of Convener (Chair Pro-tem) and Scribe.
3. Results of the 4 May Planning Commission work meeting were announced, which include:
 - a. Planning Staff will solicit input from Valley groups and residents, notably OVBA and GEM regarding internally lit signs.
 - b. Planning Staff will review MV-1 and Commercial zone definitions relative to contractor equipment storage while noting the desire to create a “level playing field” for contractors and the need for such equipment to be available to supplement farm income.
 - c. The Planning Commission is considering things they can do short of a General Plan update to advance the consideration of walkable village concepts. An example in point is the desire of the Blacksmith Shop planners to avoid a 100 foot setback to the front of the new building which fronts on 5500 East.
4. The CV-2 Zone suggestions letter was reviewed with the comment of removing heliports as a conditional use. This suggestion had been debated earlier with the conclusion to keep it as a conditional use. (Ed. Note: the letter has been sent.)
5. Laura Warburton reported to the Committee her work on Zoning in the Valley and the results of her research have been circulated by email.
6. In an effort to reduce the impact on discussion of regular business the Committee agreed to schedule additional meetings to meet with candidates for County Commissioner posts. (Note: the next meeting is with Amy Wicks and is tentatively scheduled for May 26 at 7 pm.)
7. Steve Clarke presented a brief presentation outlining who the GEM Committee is and what it’s work has been and what is planned. Kerry Gibson responded, indicating the need for such community service, the importance of citizen input, and his desire to receive such. He responded to questions about his background and interests, possible conflicts of interest, and importantly indicated he felt committed to support individual property rights while observing legitimate planning and zoning (Ed. words)

8. Kerry Gibson announced that Gage Froerer has been selected to serve in the Legislature as Chair of the Capital Facilities Committee, an important committee dealing with approval of all State capital projects.

9. The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday June 2nd**. It will be at 5 pm in the Huntsville Library. (After the meeting Mayor Truett offered to speak with the Town Council to see if their building could be made available to the Committee on a regular basis.)