

**WESTCLIFFE PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, JUNE 9TH, 2020
REGULAR MEETING**

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CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Stefanich called the meeting to order at 3:00p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mr. Stefanich, Mr. Wenke, Mr. Fulton and alternate Ms. Reis.

ABSENT: Chairman Ellison, Ms. Snow.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Manager Mr. Stefanich led the pledge of allegiance.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sharon Attebery-209 Main Street, Westcliffe, Sally Branam-219 Main Street, Westcliffe, Mike Martinez-207 Main Street, Westcliffe and Wanda Jennings.

For the record The Mayor and one or more Trustees may vote on matters that come before the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Ms. Reis moved and Mr. Fulton seconded to approve the March 10 and May 19, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Ms. Reis left the meeting after the minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

a. General discussion of the possibility of converting the 200 block of Main Street into a Pedestrian Walking Mall.

Mr. Wenke spoke about an idea of closing off Main Street on the 200 block, thinking it would help the businesses survive during the Covid-19 summer. Alleys would to be fixed so emergency vehicles could get to people if needed.

The following were concerns from the merchants who were in attendance. Traffic would have to be channeled into the residential community, and residents would not like the increased traffic. Parking may be an issue. If people can't park in front of the businesses then they won't do any shopping because people don't want to walk. A lot of businesses are seasonal, about 3 months in the summer, so they depend on the summer months to get through the 9 months. The businesses would suffer if the 200 block is closed. It was suggested to stay open longer in the summer.

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NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Another suggestion from a board member was to keep the 200 block of Main like it is now but block the parking areas, that way traffic would still go through. The merchants didn't care for this either, they want the parking spaces in front of their business. One merchant said that in the past when the 200 block was closed down for events that the businesses didn't profit from the events because people that came just wanted to see the events not to shop. But another merchant said the parades bring in business. They the merchants, depend on drive-by and spontaneous people coming through. The bluff and super-market would suffer as well. The businesses are still recovering from the 2 plus months that they were closed due to Covid-19.

It was stated that all the striping that was done on 200 block and the handicap parking would be gone.

It was suggested to put speed limits signs on 2nd and 3rd streets to slow the people down so they might stop to go into businesses. Plus, a lot of the local's speed through there and it isn't safe.

The board said that they are willing to listen to any ideas to help enrich the downtown businesses. Maybe Department of Local Affairs or Colorado Municipal League could help with seeing what is best opportunity, dangers or risks for the town. It was asked if the merchants would do a basic study like this and the answer from the merchants was no.

One merchant thought it would be nice if someone would come around to the businesses and discuss ideas instead of seeing it on the agenda. It was also requested that the merchants be kept in the loop about any changes so they too can have input.

Concerns were answered.

b. Consideration of request to recommend revising portions of Title 10 Chapter 2.

The discussion was regarding multi-family and single-family dwellings and in what district they belong. Mr. Stefanich was asked by a board member to do some research on the multi-family dwellings that are in our town right now and also find out what other towns are doing with this issue that are our size. He will than bring it back to the board for further discussion.

Mr. Fulton moved and **Mr. Wenke** seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Recorded by:
Wanda Jennings
Deputy Clerk