



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
November 18, 2021**

Public Hearing and Work Session

1

1 **Call to Order**

2 The virtual meeting was called to order by Whatcom County Planning Commission
3 Chair, Kelvin Barton at 6:32 p.m.

4 **Roll Call**

5 **Present:** Robert Bartel, Kelvin Barton, Atul Deshmane, Jim Hansen, Stephen Jackson,
6 Kimberley Lund, Natalie McClendon

7 **Absent:** Jon Maberry, Dominic Mocerri

8 **Staff Present:** Josh Fleischmann and Tammy Axlund

9 **Department Update**

10 Mark Personius, Director of Planning and Development Services (PDS), was not
11 available to provide an update.

12 **Open Session Public Comment**

13 There was no public comment.

14 **Commissioner Comments**

15 Commissioner Deshmane disclosed that Penny Friedman called him and that she
16 stayed at his house as a tenant for approximately a year. They have stayed in touch.
17 He offered to recuse himself from the vote regarding her property if the other
18 commissioners wished him to do so.

19 Commissioner McClendon announced that her second full term ends at the end of
20 January 2022, and there will be a position open in District 5. She is moving out of the
21 county in January, and may do her last meeting remotely from her new location.

22 Commissioner Barton referred to a motion chart and reminded commissioners that
23 when they need more information on a topic, they may use the motion to "postpone to
24 a certain time." This will postpone the topic to a future meeting, so it is not dropped,
25 but allows for time to obtain more information.

26 **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

27 **Timestamp: 14:12**

28 **Commissioner Bartel moved** to approve the meeting minutes from October 28,
29 2021.

30 **Commissioner Deshmane seconded.**

31 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Bartel, Barton, Deshmane, Lund, McClendon; Abstain-**
32 **Jackson (Ayes-5; Nays-0; Abstain-1*).** The motion carried.

33 *Commissioner Hansen had technical difficulties and joined after the vote.

34 **Proposed Amendments to Open Space Land**

35 **Timestamp: 18:03**

36 Josh Fleischmann, Open Space Land Administrator in Planning and Development
37 Services (PDS), gave a PowerPoint presentation providing information regarding the
38 history of the program and the purpose of the Open Spaces Taxation Act, as well as



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1 open space policy and the public benefit rating system. He then described the merits of
2 the following open space land applications, and answered Commissioners' questions.

- 3 • OSP2020-00003: Penny Friedman, parcel #400121192200
- 4 • OSP2020-00004: Donald and Barbara Taylor, parcel #390329490363
- 5 • OSP2020-00005: Whatcom Land Trust, parcel #400117071051

6 **a) Public Hearing and Work Session Regarding Open Space**

7 **Timestamp: 25:47**

8 Penny Friedman provided public comment.

9 Mr. Fleischmann and Ms. Friedman responded to commissioners' questions.

10 **Timestamp: 1:10:25**

11 **Commissioner Bartel moved** to recommend reclassification of the Friedman parcel
12 to County Council for approval.

13 **Commissioner Lund seconded.**

14 Commissioners discussed whether to recommend approval for a waiver of open space
15 requirements for this application. No amendment or motion was made in this regard.

16 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Bartel, Barton, Deshmane, Hansen, Lund, McClendon;**
17 **Nays-Jackson;(Ayes-6; Nays-1; Abstain-0). The motion carried.**

18 **Timestamp: 1:17:26**

19 Alex Jeffers advised that he would be available to answer questions on behalf of
20 Whatcom Land Trust during the work session.

21 The Chair closed the public hearing.

22 **Timestamp: 1:19:08**

23 **Commissioner Lund moved** to accept the reclassification of the Whatcom Land Trust
24 parcel as recommended by staff.

25 **Commissioner Jackson seconded.**

26 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Bartel, Barton, Deshmane, Hansen, Jackson, Lund,**
27 **McClendon; (Ayes-7; Nays-0; Abstain-0). The motion carried.**

28 **Adjournment**

29 **Timestamp:**


30 The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

31 Minutes prepared by Tammy Axlund.

32 WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ATTEST:

33 

34 Kelvin Barton, Chair


Tammy Axlund, Secretary