

# Town Plan Commission

# PUBLIC HEARING

# Approved Minutes

Thursday, August 24, 2023, 5:00 PM

## I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Members present: Peters, Iannazzo, Whittaker, Wilharm, Soucek

Staff Present: ZA Ed Schaffer, TA Michael Kuchta

Public Present: Charles Brummer, Paul Brummer, Heidi Lahm-Huber, Alex Nelson, Debbie Knopf, Mike Starck, Sarah Caruso, Aimee Baxter, Jane Vogt, Peg Bertel, Cedar Schimke, Sam Dobson, John Carlson, John Nielson, Peggy Ross, Pete Ross, Debra Dahlin, Alen Gomas, David Marquart, Janice Anderson, Margo Binsfield, Molly Sullivan, Charlie Bertel, Peter Havens, Steph Vos, plus Mike Anderson, Meghan Butler and unidentified members of the public online.

## II. Read letters into records.

Chair stated the notice for the public hearing was posted and published.

- Chair read a letter from Peter Rogers: After a brief history of the Island, the letter stated that he would like to see the commercial zone expanded to the airport on Big Bay Rd. and past the School Of The Arts on Middle Rd. He also wrote that he would like to see the runway lengthened so cargo planes could land.
- Paul Brummer Read a letter. This is a summary of his letter.
  - Concentrate business and high-density activities in the village area.
  - No reason to expand the C-1 zone or create a “mixed-use” zone.
  - Plan lacks definition of “easily connected” to sanitary sewer system.
  - Expand bicycle infrastructure along existing roadways, not through interior of island.
  - If the vocal minority wants a community center, let them pay for it.
  - P. 46: Opposed to one-way traffic on Main Street.
  - P. 84: emphasize that BBTP revenues are gross, not net.

## III. Comments from public. (Limited to 3 minutes each)

Chair opened the floor to public comment:

- Mike Stark comment that the county is hiring a grant writer that will be available to the communities in the county. He also commented that the Rental Ordinance should not be changed.
- Dave Marquart commented that he agrees with Paul Brummer and not focus on development; leave the island as undeveloped as possible.
- Cedar Schimke commented: When we refer to preserving, maintaining, or protecting the island’s natural character, consider changing to “increasing ecological resiliency” or “improving the resilience of the island's ecological and social systems” to take a more active position in our role as stewards of the island. Center a plan for climate resilience and Rights

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of Nature. Include self-sufficiency with regard to supply chain disruptions. Include language under economic vitality that centers a circular economy, which in plain language explicitly orients us toward repair, reuse, reduce, restoration, and regeneration. This can be integrated into other places in the plan, including restoring existing properties and considering repair and creative reuse in the considerations around junk. Widen consideration for who this plan should benefit to include our ecological community. Consider adding members of Anishinaabe Tribal Nations for whom we are increasing the affordability of island access. Consider improving access to healthcare by adding a private, reservable room where individuals can take virtual healthcare appointments.

**IV. Adjournment**  
**Suellen Soucek, Chair, Town Plan Commission**  
Adjourned at 5:18