

Eatonville Planning Commission

Annual Report to the Town Council 2021



2/28/2022

To: Town Council

From: Daniel Adams, Chairman

Thank you for another year and we are looking forward to another great one.

This last year was mostly spent reconfiguring the relationship of the Planning Commission to the council and staff as well as completing tasks given to us by the council. It was also the first full year of council assigning us our agendas which has helped our meeting structure and relationship to the council become clearer and more aligned.

Our main topics we covered this year were as follows:

The design standards in Title 19: The bulk of the year was spent working on the design standards for recommendation to the council. Our goal at the last year's commission was to make life easier for the citizens regarding easing the requirements. We sent a recommendation to the council a couple of times. Each time you provided feedback to better guide our process which we appreciated and will use this year as well. Prepare to see further work done on it to perfect our draft and send it to you as soon as possible.

Rezone of Properties around Lynch Creek Rd: We reviewed, had a public hearing and recommended the rezone of parcels north of Lynch Creek to commercial. Council approved the recommendation.

Land use issues in Title 17: We had several meetings dealing with the lack of regulation in Title 17 regarding infrastructure. Staff recommended changes not recommended by the commission. Those changes were approved by the council and codified.

Accessory Dwelling Units code: We were given the task of reviewing the Accessory Dwelling Unit code in Title 18. Broadly speaking those changes recommended to the council allow for greater use of private property for the town's citizens overall for Accessory Dwelling Units. These changes were adopted by the council and codified.

Subdivision Hearing: We reviewed, had a public hearing about a subdivision request at 481 Lynch Creek Rd. We recommended that the council approve it.

Sign Code: Upon learning that the sign committee had not been meeting since before the pandemic hit, we were tasked with going over the sign code for the town. We had some discussions among ourselves and with the town attorney regarding context and the need to review the town's sign code. We will be continuing the work regarding a recommendation to the council later this year.

Discussing short term rentals: We have had discussions and have draft recommendations for the council regarding short term rental code revisions. We hope to get those to you soon.

2021, being the second year of the pandemic, was a year full of settling down to business since we got used to meeting virtually, relearning our mandate from the council and our relationship to it. This was also our first full year of meeting as a Planning Commission since 2019. We got a lot of work done due to meeting twice a month but we lost several members to elected/hired positions with the town or retirement from the commission during the last year so we didn't meet in late December through February 2022. It will take time for the new members to become acquainted with each other, our topics of discussion and the mission of the Planning Commission but I look forward to a great year teaching and learning with them.

Thank you,

Humbly,
Daniel Adams
Chairman Eatonville Planning Commission 2021