

City of Bessemer Planning Commission

2018 Annual Report

The City of Bessemer's Planning Commission is comprised of five members who meet monthly on the 1st Tuesday at 5:30 in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 411 S Sophie. A typical meeting consists of review of the previous meetings minutes, public hearings, discussion of articles for training, and new or old business, any communications, and reports from staff regarding development or any programs the City is involved, and finally a call to the public, and member's comments.

Planning Commission members include: Dave Osier (chair), Bill McDonald, Terry Kryshak (council representative), Kevin Nyquist, and Louis Miskovich.

The commission spent a significant part of the year reviewing and adopting various plans and reviewing and making suggestions for zoning changes. The commission helped make great strides towards assisting the city in becoming Redevelopment Ready Community certified.

Each meeting started with a discussion of relevant articles to learn more various topics. Each member received training on the roles and responsibilities of Planning Commission members including the open meetings act.

Meeting dates and summaries

January 3rd, 2018

Training on the roles and responsibilities of the Planning Commission. A discussion on the plans and goals for the commission.

February 6th, 2018

Discussed changes to the zoning ordinance including bicycle parking, street trees, parking lot landscaping, accessory dwelling units and tiny houses, and the Central Business District Overlay.

March 6th, 2018

Continued discussion on changes to the zoning ordinance.

April 2nd, 2018

Hosted a public hearing on the Capital Improvement Plan and discussed it. Continued discussion on zoning changes. Discussed the Public Participation Plan. Discussed changing the zoning code to require medical marijuana be regulated as a home occupation.

May 1st, 2018

Hosted Public Hearings and further discussed the Capital Improvement Plan, Zoning Amendments, and the Public Participation Plan. Started discussion on the Marketing Plan. Adopted the Capital Improvement Plan and the Public Participation Plan, and recommended the council adopt the Zoning Amendments.

June 5th, 2018

Hosted a public hearing on the marketing plan and adopted it. Recommended the Council adopt the Zoning Amendments with some changes.

August 7th, 2018

Discussed the Parks and Recreation Plan. Discussed the RRC process.

September 5th, 2018

Discussed the lighting ordinance changes and started brainstorming potential brownfields in Bessemer.

October 2nd, 2018

Hosted a public hearing and adopted the Parks and Recreation Plan. Hosted a public hearing on the lighting ordinance and recommended the council adopt it. Continued to brainstorm potential brownfield sites.