

**Latah County Planning Commission**  
Minutes, 20 April 2004

Planning Commission [PC] Members: John Hunt [JDH], Suvia Judd [SJ], Kathleen Warnick [KW], James Smith [JS], Janet Hohle [JH], Louise Barber [LB].  
Planning Director, Michelle Fuson [MF]

**Present/Absent:** JDH, SJ, KW, JH, JS, LB present.. Staff: Michelle Fuson.

**Packet:** Agenda; minutes for 4/6/04; Palouse Prairie summary; revised draft of ordinances

**Meeting.** Minutes for 4/6/04 accepted. John Currin (Potlatch Corporation) asked that the PC think about a change in the land division ordinance that would allow a parcel split by a highway or railroad to be legally divided. Potlatch acquired a piece of property that is split in this manner (the deed did not exclude the roadbed right of way) and it is essentially unproductive land for their purposes; they would like to sell it for development as a building site. Technically, Potlatch owns the land the highway is situated on; it was sold to them in single deed before 1997. This situation is not common. PC tabled discussion.

2.08 (Lighting): LB presented some information re. lamp equivalencies; decision to delete "100 watts or less" (2.08.01.1); revise 2.08.01.3 (which will become 2.08.01.2) to: Of a design that does not allow the light to travel horizontally or upwards; and change 2.08.01.4 (which will become 2.08.01.3) to : Lamped with high pressure sodium, metal halide, compact fluorescent, or incandescent lamps of 60 watts or less.

Sensitive lands: Janet's research turned up areas similar to Latah that already have statutes protecting sensitive land, but these lands are identified in these other locales. What Latah needs is a place holder element, professional advice to determine buildability. An inventory is a necessity in this case. PC may want to create language that indicates that we want to protect Palouse Prairie; this protection/language would be fairly unique nationally; Janet would like to see us make information re. the prairie available to the public while we sort this out. MF: the ordinance cannot name an individual(s) who are expert for any decision on the use of this type of property; the best we could do is to come up with a class of people with credentials (i.e., certain agencies, or those with Master's degrees in botany). Decided to float this concept and ridgetop building at the public meetings in June and see where Latah residents are.

Dates set for public meetings: June 7-9 in Moscow, Potlatch and Deary.

**Next Meeting:** 4 May 2004 at 5:30pm in the Latah County Courthouse, Room 2B. Topics for and how to present at public meetings to be discussed.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ 28 April 2004  
Louise D. Barber