

Brainerd Planning Commission Workshop
June 12, 2013

Chairman Mike Jay called the meeting of the Brainerd Planning Commission to order at 7:28 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Dave Pritschet, Sarah Hayden, Mike Jay, Jan Lambert, and James Norwood.

Others Present: City Planner Mark Ostgarden

The purpose of the workshop is to have discussion regarding Residential Infill Design Guidelines and Small Lot/House Construction.

City Planner Ostgarden stated the first question regarding infill design standards is whether or not the Commission feels they need to have the standards. It was noted they are just guidelines and to have authority and make it a requirement there will need to be ordinance changes.

The Commission discussed how more restrictions may discourage building. The Commission wants to promote building but still want infill to conform to the neighborhood.

The Commission discussed what should be included in the guide lines. The Commission agreed a property inventory of vacant lots and blighted/tear down homes should be put together before guidelines are set to see where the properties are located as it will help set those guidelines.

City Planner Ostgarden stated he will work on getting an inventory put together and bring it back to the Commission for a workshop in September. The Commission agreed to hold another workshop in July to discuss possible barriers and start developing guidelines.

The Commission then held discussion on small homes. Discussion revolved around areas of town that would work for small homes and noted this goes along with infill development.

City Planner Ostgarden stated he will speak with the Building Official to get input from the building standpoint and do more research on small homes. He stated there are possibly two plans, a specific zoning area for small homes and small homes being used as infill. He stated he will have additional information for the Commission at their July meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Mark Ostgarden AICP
City Planner