

Unapproved Minutes  
Vermillion Planning Commission  
Monday April 14, 2014 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Vermillion Planning Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman Forseth in the Large Conference Room at City Hall on March 24, 2014 at 5:15 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Fairholm, Forseth, Gruhn, Holland, Howe, Muenster, and Tuve.  
Absent: Manning and Iverson.

Staff present: Andrew Colvin, Assistant City Manager and Jose Dominguez, City Engineer.

2. Minutes

a. March 24, 2014 Regular Meeting.

Moved by Tuve to approve the February 24, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Gruhn. Motion carried 7-0.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Howe to adopt the agenda as printed, seconded by Holland. Motion carried 7-0.

4. Visitors to be Heard

5. Public Hearing

6. Old Business

7. New Business

a. 2035 Comprehensive Plan Stakeholder Session - Public Agencies, University of South Dakota staff, students and faculty.

Andy Colvin provided background information on the Comprehensive Plan and revision process. Vice-Chairman Forseth asked for input from any interested persons or stakeholders present on the future of Vermillion and development of the community.

Kurt Hackemer, Interim Provost for USD, stated that the University struggles with candidates for jobs when it comes to affordable housing and jobs for trailing spouses. It was also stated that Bliss Pointe will address a large part of the problem with affordable housing, but more will need to be done in the future to make the town more attractive.

Kim Grieve, Dean of Students at USD, spoke on the issue of adequate and safe rental housing for students. Ms. Grieve stated that the City needs to do more to ensure rental housing is safe and attractive for students, and mentioned the possibility of USD partnering with the City to create a certification process based on inspections and records for rental properties. Roberta Ambur echoed the comments about housing for faculty and students.

Mark Froke, Superintendent of Schools for the Vermillion School District, stated that the City needs to continue to help the VCDC support local manufacturers in finding a workforce.

Steve Ward, City Alderman and USD staff member, asked if the Planning Commission has established a population goal by 2035 and felt that it is important to develop policies to get the City to that goal. Matt Fairholm asked Mr. Ward what population he would like to see Vermillion reach, with 15,000 being discussed. Steve Howe stated that it is important to get the 25 to 55-year olds to move to Vermillion.

Sharon Gray, USD staff member, stated that Vermillion is blessed to have had Hyperion pass by without being built. Ms. Gray also stated that a facility like Hyperion is the wrong kind of growth for Vermillion. Steve Howe asked Ms. Gray what the right kind of growth would be. Ms. Gray stated that businesses like Eagle Creek are a great example of what fits in Vermillion.

Kurt Hackemer stated that there are a significant percentage of students that would like to stay in Vermillion after graduating from USD, but there are few opportunities for employment.

Emily Roberson, USD student, stated that the Comprehensive Plan should address making Vermillion more bike-friendly, such as the addition of bike lanes on City streets.

Jim Wilson, Clay County Historic Preservation Commission, stated that the Comprehensive Plan needs to address historic districts in Vermillion. Mr. Wilson also stated that without a City ordinance that deals with historic preservation, there are no teeth in enforcement when properties are to be altered.

Kim Grieve stated that USD pride needs to be integrated into the community, particularly downtown.

#### 8. Adjourn

Moved by Fairholm to adjourn, seconded by Gruhn. Motion carried 7-0.

Vice-Chairman Forseth declared the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.