League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman Planning Commission Meeting Date: 10/25/23

Observer Reporting: Jessica D. Cassleman Length of meeting: 7:00PM – 7:37PM

Commission Members Present:

John Anderson (Chair), Brent Carper (Vice-chair), Jeff Joswig-Jones, Angela Taylor.

Commission Members Absent:.

Scott Hodge, Joe O'Callaghan, and Lorena O'English,

Others Present: RJ Lott (Pullman Director of Community Development); Ariel Medeiros; (Johnson? Goodwater?)

Items discussed:

Conduct a public hearing on municipal code changes regarding the definition of Accessory Living Quarters

Minutes:

Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 26, 2023 – Approved unanimously.

The Planning Commission congratulated the City staff for the excellent job writing the minutes of the July 26, 2023 meeting. It is a 17 page document.

Discussion:

The discussion was regarding the following statement.

"Recently, the Pullman Housing Exploratory Committee requested a change to the City of Pullman Municipal Code, Title 17 (Zoning Code). The specific change requested involves accessory living quarters (See Attachment A, Draft Code Change). Specifically, the hearing concerns the removal of restrictions related to allowed residents (currently only family or employees), location, and rental status."

The following suggestion to the definition was presented by Ariel Medeiros from the City of Pullman.

Accessory Living Quarters. Living quarters, including guest houses, which may include kitchen facilities, located within an accessory building or the principal building for the sole use of the family or persons employed on the premises and not rented or otherwise used as a separate dwelling.

After discussion among the four members of the Commission present it was recommended that the paragraph reads as follows:

Accessory Living Quarters. Living quarters, including guest houses, which may include kitchen facilities located within an accessory building or the principal building for the sole use of the family or persons employed on the premises and not rented or otherwise used as a separate dwelling.

The decision was supported as it was viewed as an effort to help community members find lower cost housing. Changes would allow owners to support present and future needs of residents.

The proposed code change enumerated in the resolution above will be forwarded to the Pullman City Council with a recommendation for approval.

New Business

No new business was presented.

Other Business

None

Upcoming Meetings

- 1. November 22, 2023 will be on November 29th instead because of Thanksgiving.
- 2. December 27, 2023 will take place on December 20th due to Christmas Holiday
- 3. January 24, 2023

Adjournment at 7:37PM