

Moab Planning Commission Agenda Item

Meeting Date: July 22, 2019

Title: Amendment to the Planning Commission Bylaws to allow electronic participation

Staff Presenter: Nora Shepard, Planning Director

Attachment(s):

Exhibit A: Draft Planning Commission Resolution 05-2021 A Resolution amending the City of Moab Planning Commission Bylaws to allow electronic participation

Exhibit B: Planning Commission Bylaws as currently adopted.

Options:

1. Approve Moab Planning Commission Resolution 05-2021 with or without modifications; or
2. Continue or table action to a later meeting with specific direction to City Staff and Applicant as to additional information needed to make a decision.

Motion for Approval:

“I move to approve Planning Commission Resolution 05-2021 A Resolution amending the City of Moab Planning Commission Bylaws to allow electronic participation.”

Background:

Planning Commission meetings have historically been held in person at the Moab City Hall. Because of COVID-19, the City issued emergency proclamations to allow meetings to be held entirely by electronic means, via the Zoom meeting platform. Now that we are able to gather again, the Planning Commission Meetings will generally return to in-person meetings. There may be instances where the Planning Commission may be more comfortable meeting via Zoom due to concerns over COVID Transmission. In those cases, the Planning Commission can use a written determination at the beginning of meeting to allow the use of the remote meeting platform.

Now that we will be returning to in-person meetings, there may be times where Planning Commissioners and staff may not be able to attend in person, but could participate via electronic means. The City is updating the technology in City Hall to allow remote participation, as necessary. In order to allow this electronic participation for Planning Commission and Staff, a change in the Planning Commission Bylaws is necessary.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment:

The staff has prepared Planning Commission Resolution 05-2021 (Exhibit A) to allow limited electronic participation. This resolution was drafted using language from a City Council Ordinance that allowed the Council members and staff to participate electronically. The approach was discussed with and supported by the City Attorney, Laurie Simonson.

According to the Planning Commission Bylaws, amendments can be made as follows:

“Amending By-Laws. These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Commission, except where such amendments would be contrary to the requirements or limitations set forth by State Law or Moab Municipal Code. An amendment may be proposed at any regular meeting of the Commission. Member shall receive a copy of the proposed or amended by-laws not less than one week prior to the meeting at which said proposed changes shall be heard.”

I have also attached the current Planning Commission Bylaws for your information and use (Exhibit B). These bylaws were last amended in 2018.