

City of El Paso
Zoning Committee Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2021

The City of El Paso Zoning Committee meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by committee member Chris Gentes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call was taken, members present were: Chris Gentes, Renee Donaldson, Nancy Johnson and Thad Mool via Zoom.

Members absent: Mary Wilkey.

Others present: Barry Kauther, Director of Public Service; Michael Melick; Ty Nowark and daughter; Mary Ellen Kilpatrick; Jim & Ellen McWilliams and Todd Waggoner. Via Zoom: Sally Heinzl, Jennie Kearney, Kim Kearney and Sandee Kessinger managing the Zoom meeting.

Discussion in regards to Todd Waggoner's request for a variance at his home located at 196 S. Elm St. The roof and overhang form an accessory structure that was recently built it was discovered to be on the right-of-way. Waggoner showed pictures of the structure. A motion was made by Donaldson and 2nd by Johnson to recommend that the City Council grant Waggoner a variance. A voice vote was taken of all eyes.

Discussion in regards to Dan Bozarth's request for a variance at his property on 670 N Pine St. The deck has been removed on the back side (west side) of the house and Bozarth would like to replace it with a sunroom. Donaldson moved and Johnson 2nd to recommend that the City Council to grant Bozarth a variance.

Discussion in regards to the property at 195 E Front St. Ben Kingdon is considering purchasing the property, demolishing the buildings and constructing 2 apartment buildings. Kingdon is wondering if the board would consider giving him the variances that he needs before continuing to make further plans. Jim McWilliams, who owns the property to the east expressed concerns over parking and the loss

of green space. Mc Williams, who is a former city water/sewer department employee, also spoke about water runoff and the exacerbation of flooding concerns in the area. The Zoning Board decided that they would like to see improvements to that property but not to such a large scale.

Ty Nowark owner of 1 W Front St was asking for the Boards opinion on reopening the basement stairwell on the east side of the building. Nowark would like to turn the basement of his building into a history museum. Michael Melick spoke of the history on David Strother who had a barbershop in the basement of the building. Nowark would like to focus the history around Strother. The general census of the Zoning Board was positive as long as everything was structurally safe.

Gentes motioned and Donaldson 2nd to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken of all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandee Kessinger