**BIGFORK LAND USE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Draft Minutes Thursday August 29, 2024**

**4:00 PM Bethany Lutheran Church – Downstairs Meeting Room**

Chairwoman Susan Johnson called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

**Present:** Committee member attendees: Angela De Fries, Susan Johnson, Chany Ockert, Shelley Gonzales, Jerry Sorensen, and Richard Michaud; none absent; Public: 4 members.

The agenda was amended to address New Business after Public Comment (m/s, Johnson/Ockert), vote unanimous.

Minutes of the May 30, 2024, meeting were approved (m/s, Johnson/Ockert), vote unanimous.

**Administrator’s Report and Announcements:**

Sign-in sheet passed around. Approved minutes and documents are posted on the County website: flathead.mt.gov Click on Planning and Zoning/Meetings and Boards/Bigfork Land Use Advisory Committee.

**Public Comment:**

DeeDee Myers -1856 McCaffrey Lookout Road, Bigfork. Concerned that there are LED lights and surveillance cameras in Wayfarers Park and why they were installed. LED lights have a negative impact on humans and she wants to know who is responsible for the installations and who she should talk to about this issue.

Ockert moved and DeFries seconded a motion to amend the agenda to allow the committee to respond to the question. Motion passed unanimously. Ockert stated to Myers that she should go to Flathead Planning and Zoning Department and the Montana State Parks Commission.

**Application:**

None

**New Business:**

Laura Perry-200 Shawnee Drive, Bigfork. Perry attended the meeting to present her interest and professional background for the committee’s consideration to fill the open position on BLUAC. She has resided in Bigfork since 2020 and has a background in real estate and development. She does not practice real estate in Montana. Perry stated that she would like Bigfork to have control of growth and development. Committee members stated the limitations of BLUAC and that our purpose is to consider applications from the Planning and Zoning Department.

Sorensen moved and DeFries seconded the motion to appoint Perry to fill the open position until May 31, 2025. Perry would be required to file election papers and be elected to fill the remaining term of the position to May 31, 2027.

**Unfinished Business:**

Bigfork Neighborhood Plan Update.

The committee discussed various Plan topics that need to be updated from the 2020 census, topics to delete from the Plan and added to the Plan.

Sorensen volunteered for the Land Use section and will meet with Planning and Zoning. He will ask Planning and Zoning for all transportation studies. Perry volunteered to assist.

Ockert asked Julie Spencer, Director of Bigfork Water and Sewer if she can provide maps of BWS infrastructure/limitations of service for development to help in land use planning. Spencer stated she should have maps in a few months.

Michaud volunteered to update the Police, Fire, and Transportation section of Local and Social Services. Ockert will update the other topics including the new library. DeFries will update the Bigfork schools.

Gonzales volunteered to update the Demographics and Economic section of the Plan.

There will be public meetings announced on the Plan update as the process progresses.

**Adjourn:**

Johnson moved and Sorensen seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Gonzales,

Member and acting recording secretary