

**GOVERNMENT REVIEW STUDY COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025
5:30 PM
MINUTES**

1) Call to Order

Kevin McDowell, Chair, called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Sandra Alessi, Nathan Dugan, Dakota Whitman, Scott Wurster, and Ex-Officio Michelle Howke, and City Manager Dana Smith.

2) Communications from the Public - (This time is set aside for the public to comment on items that are either on the agenda, but not a public hearing or on items not on the agenda. City officials do not respond during these comments but may respond or follow-up later on the agenda or at another time. The presiding officer has the option of limiting such communications to three minutes depending on the number of citizens who want to comment and the length of the meeting agenda)

None

3) Approval of February 5, 2025, Minutes

Commissioner Alessi made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Whitman to approve the February 5, 2025, minutes.

Commissioner Wurster made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Alessi, to reconsider the January 8, 2025, meeting minutes.

Commissioner Wurster made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Alessi to amend the January 8, 2025, minutes to read as follows: “Commissioner Wurster made a motion, seconded by Nathan for a two-year timeline. The motion was carried unanimously”. “As the basis for his motion, Commissioner Wurster stated that he consulted with Council person Norton to confirm his recollection that there had been a vote, a unanimous vote for a two-year timeline at the January 8, 2025, that was passed unanimously. During the meeting Commissioner Alessi confirmed that recollection. Nathan feels it is difficult to amend minutes months down the road, especially since the meeting was not recorded to verify if the motion was made. **The motion to amend the January 8, 2025, minutes failed 3 to 2, Commissioners Wurster and Alessi voted for the motion.**

The motion to approve the February 5, 2025, minutes passed unanimously.

4) Old Business

a) Create groups for stakeholder meetings – work on lists of questions

- **City Council on April 7th at 5:30pm**
- **Staff (Director meeting) on April 8th @ 10:00am – due to conflicting schedule, this has been moved to April 7th at 3:30pm.**

(Kevin, Sandra, Dakota, Nathan tentative, Scott – has not responded)

The Commissioners listed local groups outside the local government to meet with:

Scott: Economic development section of the growth policy identified stakeholders (Logan Health, Montana West Economic Development, Averill Hospitality, Heart of Whitefish, Garden Wall Inn, WF Chamber of

Commerce, BNSF, Two Bear, WF Mtn Resort, KCM Enterprises, AppCom, Explore WF, National Parks Realty, Zaneray Group, Glacier Bank, WF Mall). He would like to knock on doors, mix owners/renters.

Nathan: City staff other than department directors; high school students (Mr. Webb), local business owners/employees; renters; local developers.

Kevin: Logan Health, WF Mtn Resort Board members, CVB/Explore WF, Chamber of Commerce

Sandra: Would like to team up with Kevin. Whitefish Theatre Company, Alpine Theatre Company, Senior Center.

Dakota: WF Lake Institute, Whitefish Trails, WF Mtn Resort, (recreation/conservation organization), Explore Whitefish, and is interested in joining Scott door to door.

The table below reflects which commissioners will team up to meet with each group. Groups can be added to the list at any time.

Group	Kevin	Nathan	Scott	Dakota	Sandra		
Mr. Webb	X	X					
Renters/WHA/Housing WF/ Etc		X			X		
Health Care (Logan/Glacier Med/Etc.	X		X		X		
Explore WF_CVB/Heart of WF/WF Foundation	X			X			
WF Manor/Springs/Mtn View Manor/Etc.			X		X		
WLI/WLP/Recreation Conservation			X	X			
Economic/Chamber/Businesses	X		X				
Fraternal Organization	X			X			
Art -Theatres				X	X		
School Board	X				X		
City staff (not department directors)	Dana suggests sending surveys to city employees prior to meeting as a group.						
	Contact Dana prior to reaching out to employees to set up a meeting.						

b) Discuss and review survey questions

After some discussion the Commissioners agreed on questions for the City Council, Department Directors and the Community Survey. The questionnaires and the survey are attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Whitman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to approve the Community Survey, with the caveat that Commissioners McDowell and Alessi will work on the introduction and City Attorney Jacobs will work on a disclaimer statement. The motion carried.

c) Review City Charter

Remains as standing agenda item.

Commissioner Alessi made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to table to next meeting. The motion carried.

5) New Business

None

6) Public Comment

None

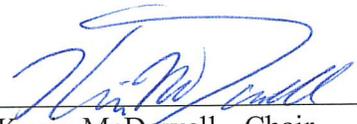
7) Communication to or from Study Commissioners

Commissioner Wurster made motion, seconded by Commissioner Whitman to change the monthly meeting to the 1st Wednesday at 5:30. The motion carried.

8) Next meeting: ~~March~~ April 2, 2025

9) Adjournment

Commissioner Whitman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Alessi to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm.



Kevin McDowell - Chair

Attest:



Michelle Howke, Whitefish City Clerk