

Good evening,

I come before you all once again to express my opinion as a citizen of Molalla on a subject you are about to vote on. After all, this is the main purpose of our process. I came to speak in favor for Clint Ancell for the open planning commission seat. You know... there was a time, and it wasn't that long ago, when we could barely keep enough warm bodies on the planning commission to hold a quorum let alone fill all 7 seats! But here we are and I for one am very happy to see this change. It means that citizens are engaging and wanting to get involved.

So, I wanted to come before you again with my opinion, First I am not speaking for the planning commission. Sounds like the email sent out wasn't responded to in time, I am one of those didn't respond in time. And it is hard to have everyone try to vote on one recommendation through email. It is a shame it was not brought up in their last meeting. I think It's a great idea to have commission review applications and give a recommendation, we have never been in a position like this!!

But with that being said, the recommendation that is before you this evening is from Staff. And while I can understand that the planning director is probably excited to have someone who he thinks will understand the planning process better than most, and I am just speculating about that, but I would like to point out that we used to have a planning director on or commission years ago. Lived here in town, was planning director in another. We all thought he would Definity be a great asset to our community! Sadly, he was not.. he barely participated and he wasn't on commission for very long

I already said this before but I would like to again, listening to people complain about things they do not understand in this town drives me a bit crazy. Especially since it is so easy to stay informed of what is going on around us. But, for those who step up to the plate and decide they are going to get involved instead of sitting on the sidelines, those people I hold a lot of admiration for. It takes a lot of time to read and research and listen and get involved and stay involved!! That is why I personally think Clint will make a great asset to our community.

Lastly I would like to express that when I talk to other citizens in this town, one of their most frustrating points is that they cannot run for council .. why because they don't live in town. I understand completely why this is in place, but with the amount of people living around this town. I can sympathize why they may think it is unfair. That is why I am very excited that we allow a couple of citizens onto the planning commission that are not in town. I like that we offer that option and I think it helps make and keep those connections that make us all a community.