

APPROVED

Sign Committee

Workshop Discussion: Members from the Plan Commission, Economic Development Commission, and the Zoning Board of Appeals

Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2004 12:00 Noon

Committee Room

Present: Commissioner Chalberg, Commissioner Benes, and Commissioner McCormick

Absent: Commission: Commissioner Nicholaou, Commissioner Randall

Staff: Joseph Skach, Director of Planning and Community Development
Beth Janicki-Clark, Village Prosecutor
Don Scheidler, Code Services

Public: Rick Wood, Group Sign; Michael Bogent, DG Chamber; Linda Kunze, Downtown Management Board; George Swimmer, 4905 Main Street; Ed Novak, various buildings; Karen Shabel, American Chartered Bank; Mitch Fox, DG Park District; Tom Sisul, DG Chamber; Stan Urban, Village Council; Debbie Filarski, DG National Bank; Phil Cullen, Ballydoyle

1. Reviewed the Village Council Moratorium Approval

Discussion:

Members discussed the amendments to the Sign Moratorium that was passed by the Village Council on August 17, 2004. The Village Council passed an Ordinance stating that except for applications on file as of May 18, 2004, no sign permits shall be granted until further determinative Council action unless the sign conforms to the following:

- Except for governmental or temporary signs, freestanding sign shall be limited to one sign per zoning lot frontage with a maximum size of fifty (50) square feet and a maximum height of ten (10) feet, provided however, freestanding sign in the Concentrated Central Area shall be limited to one sign per zoning lot frontage with a maximum size of twenty (20) square feet and a maximum height of eight (8) feet. Each freestanding sign shall have an unobstructed area of at least four (4) feet in height measured from the ground to the bottom of the sign face;
- No sign permit shall be granted for any wall sign that exceeds one (1) square foot per one (1) lineal foot of tenant frontage.

2. Review and Discuss Prohibited Signs.

Discussion:

Generally the Sign Committee discussed the prohibited sign section and noted the following changes be made:

- Governmental signs area allowed to be attached to utility, traffic signal poles and light poles.
- Bare bulb illumination are allowed on marquees located in the Concentrated Central Area/Fairview Concentrated Business District.
- Projecting signs are allowed in the Concentrated Central Area/Fairview Concentrated Business District.

- Exterior signs containing exposed gas tubing are prohibited.
- Box-type signs are prohibited in the Concentrated Central Area/Fairview Concentrated Business District.
- Real estate “Sold By” signs were eliminated from the prohibited sign list.
- Sign painted on the wall, roof, or fence is permitted in the Concentrated Central Area/Fairview Concentrated Business District.

3. Review and Discuss Sign Definitions

Discussion:

The Sign Committee generally discussed the proposed signage definitions. There was review and discussion of the definitions of monument signs, freestanding signs and the difference between the two. Clarification was added to these two sign definitions. The definition for a portable sign was also added to the definitions section. Additionally, clarification of the vehicle sign definition was also added.

4. Review and Discuss Concentrated Central Area/Fairview Concentrated Business District

Discussion:

The Sign Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed draft Concentrated Central Area/Fairview Concentrated Business District and suggested that monument signs have a maximum height of five (5') feet while the maximum height of a shingle signs should be eight (8') feet. Additional discussion was also done on freestanding signs. It was discussed that freestanding signs should be allowed in the Concentrated Central Area/Fairview Concentrated Business Districts with a maximum height of eight (8') feet and a maximum of twenty (20) square feet.

5. Public Comment

Discussion:

The general comments from the public where that they do not want homogenous, boring signage in the downtown, adding that there are some good signs in some of the categories that the Village is proposing to prohibit.

There was comment of providing overheads of the pages being discussed for the audience's benefit.

A comment was made in regards to changeable copy signs (i.e. Lincoln Center, Rec. Center, Firehouse, etc) and how those would be affected by these proposed revisions to the sign code and further noted that these signs provide a public service.

6. Adjourn - 2:00 PM