

THE FAYETTE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION held a **Public Meeting/Workshop** on August 17, 2006 at 7:11 P.M. in the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue West, Board of Commissioners Conference Room, Suite 100, Fayetteville, Georgia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Graw, Chairman
Douglas Powell, Vice-Chairman
Bill Beckwith
Al Gilbert
Tim Thoms

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Pete Frisina, Director of Planning & Zoning
Dennis Dutton, Zoning Administrator
Jeremy Greenberg, Civil Engineer
Robyn S. Wilson, P.C. Secretary/Zoning Coordinator

Welcome and Call to Order:

Chairman Graw called the Public Meeting/Workshop to order and introduced the Board Members and Staff.

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1. Discussion of proposed amendments to the Fayette County Sign Ordinance as presented by the Planning & Zoning Department.

Changeable Copy Signs

Pete Frisina explained that Staff had not met with Attorney Dennis Davenport to discuss the proposed amendments. He stated he wanted to briefly discuss the proposed amendments tonight. He added that Staff was reviewing the current Sign Ordinance and had found some items which needed to be revised; however, all of the proposed amendments would be advertised at one time.

Mr. Frisina pointed out that the current ordinance prohibits Changeable Copy Signs. He said that the proposed amendment would allow changeable copy signs provided that the sign changes no more than once every thirty (30) seconds. He remarked that he did not want the changeable copy signs to be a distraction to drivers. He commented that the technology has changed over the years and most companies are utilizing a LED changeable copy sign instead of a changeable copy sign which utilizes individual letters. He explained that the LED format allows the message to be typed from inside a building and automatically fed into the LED device.

Doug Powell verified that a sign which changes more than once every thirty (30) seconds shall be considered an animated sign which is prohibited.

Tim Thoms asked if the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) regulations had been reviewed in regards to the signage size being regulated by traffic speeds.

Mr. Frisina replied that he could research the GDOT regulations prior to the next Workshop.

Wall Signs

Mr. Frisina stated that a wall sign would be calculated not to exceed two (2) square feet per linear foot of the front length of the building or portion thereof occupied.

Residential Freestanding Signs

Mr. Frisina advised that Attorney Davenport had a problem with a subdivision entrance sign being placed on a "wall" when the ordinance states that wall signs are prohibited in a residential zoning district. He added that this would be discussed further with Attorney Davenport prior to the next Workshop.

Mr. Frisina pointed out that criteria was being proposed for permitting a sign at the entrance of a subdivision, whether a residential or nonresidential development. He advised that a permit for the sign at the entrance of development may not be issued until the final plat has been recorded.

Signage During Construction

Mr. Frisina stated that Staff had some questions about signage during construction; however, they had not been able to meet with Attorney Davenport prior to tonight's Workshop.

Mr. Frisina advised that Staff would continue to review the Sign Ordinance for discussion at the next Workshop.

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Chairman Graw asked if there was any further business. He advised that he would not be present at the September 7, 2006 Public Hearing.

Hearing no further business, Bill Beckwith made a motion to adjourn the Public Meeting/Workshop. Doug Powell seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed 5-0. The Public Meeting/Workshop adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

PLANNING COMMISSION
OF
FAYETTE COUNTY

ATTEST:

JIM GRAW
CHAIRMAN

ROBYN S. WILSON
P.C. SECRETARY