

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

APRIL 28, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Groat at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Deborah Groat, Nevin Taylor, Henk Berbee

OTHERS PRESENT: Derek Hutchinson, Greg DeLong

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes for the meeting on March 24, 2014 were approved as presented.

AGENDA:

- Sign Code Discussion

Referring to the Proposed Sign Code Modifications presented by Mr. DeLong, Mrs. Groat said she would like to consider all changes in the same section as a group.

Mrs. Groat asked who was responsible for removing the banners/bunting on the old Liggett building. Mr. Hutchinson said it was a group effort. Mrs. Groat thanked them for getting it done. Mr. Berbee commented that someone even painted the building.

Mr. DeLong explained the proposed changes are what were discussed at last month's Public Affairs Committee meeting.

RE: Proposed Sign Code Modifications

Attached to this letter are proposed sign code modifications that are the result of the March 24, 2014 Public Affairs Committee meeting. To assist the Committee in their review of the proposed modifications, following you will find a summary explanation of each of the proposed modifications:

- Section 1100.02 – Addition of a line stating that Information Signs and Open & Closed Signs are exempt from typical sign fees.
- Section 1100.02 – Removal of various items which are not applicable to City reviews and processes.
- Section 1143.091 – Material specifications remained in order to keep some type of cohesive appearance and to limit the potential for “home-made” and/or “non-professional” signs.

- Section 1143.091(e) – Added the color white as an additional option for the portable sidewalk sign.
- Section 1143.091(m) – Removed the requirement for an annual inspection of the portable sidewalk sign. Sign maintenance is already addressed in Section 1143.12.
- Section 1143.16(d) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Information Window/Wall Signs.
- Section 1143.17(e) – Added a clause making Information Signs and Open & Closed Signs exempt from the overall sign calculations.
- Section 1143.17(e)(22) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Information Window/Wall Signs.
- Section 1143.17(e)(23) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Open/Closed Signs.
- Section 1143.171(d) – Added a clause making Information Signs and Open & Closed Signs exempt from the overall sign calculations.
- Section 1143.171(d)(15) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Information Window/Wall Signs.
- Section 1143.171(d)(16) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Open/Closed Signs.
- Section 1143.18(d) – Added a clause making Information Signs and Open & Closed Signs exempt from the overall sign calculations.
- Section 1143.18(d)(25) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Information Window/Wall Signs.
- Section 1143.18(d)(26) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Open/Closed Signs.
- Section 1143.19(e) – Added a clause making Information Signs and Open & Closed Signs exempt from the overall sign calculations.
- Section 1143.19(e)(23) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Information Window/Wall Signs.

- Section 1143.19(e)(24) – Proposed to increase the square footage from 2-sq. ft. to 3-sq. ft. for Open/Closed Signs.
- Section 1143.20(b) – Added a clause making Information Signs and Open & Closed Signs exempt from the overall sign calculations.
- Banners – The proposed language is language that the Planning Commission previously approved related to banners in the City. The language was removed from the Code at the recommendation of the Sign-Ad-Hoc committee during their 2011 review of the temporary sign code update.

Mr. DeLong pointed out as far the portable sidewalk signs, the color white was added. The material was kept the same, which is a plastic, synthetic material.

Mr. Berbee said the Committee had talked about a couple different sizes between Uptown and outside of the Historical Uptown District. Mr. DeLong said he is not proposing two different sizes because they have to be placed by the door of the business.

Proposal is for banners to now be permitted. Consideration is being given to increasing the banner size from 18 sq. ft. to 20 sq. ft. to make it consistent with the rest of the code. The Committee was okay with that.

Mr. Berbee asked about weights to hold down the sidewalk sign in inclement weather. Mr. DeLong said additional weighted material is not permitted due to safety hazard.

Mrs. Groat asked Mr. DeLong to remove or rephrase in Section 1143.08(b)(1), prohibited.

The proposed changes will go to Planning Commission on June 2nd and any recommendations will be forwarded to Council on June 26th.

Mr. DeLong will discuss with the Law Director as to how to group the amendments when they come to City Council.

The next Public Affairs Committee meeting, if a meeting is necessary, will have to be moved to May 19th at 6:00 p.m. due May 26th being Memorial Day.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.