



**City of Jordan
City Planning Commission
December 13, 2011**

Members Present: Rolf Hafslund; Council Representative Mayor Pete Ewals; Jeanne Marnoff, Tom Sand, Jeff Will, Gene Flynn.

Staff Present: Joe Janish, Senior Planner, Joanne Foust, Planning Consultant Municipal Development Group (MDG, Inc.)

Others Present: Mike Nevins, Rick Lockert, Liz Thelemann, Terry Hartman, Yvonne Perkins, and others that did not sign in.

1.0 Call to Order.

Chair Hafslund called the Planning Commission to order at 6:00 pm.

2.0 Adopt Agenda.

Motion Marnoff seconded by Ewals to approve agenda. Motion unanimously approved.

3.0 Approval of Minutes.

A. November 9, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Motion Marnoff, seconded by Ewals to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes. Motion approved.

B. November 29, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion Will, seconded by Marnoff to approve the November 29, 2011 special meeting minutes. Motion approved.

4.0 Public Hearings.

No Hearings were scheduled for the evening.

5.0 New Business.

A. Sign Ordinance Discussion.

The Planning Commission discussed the sign ordinance and noted that business owners input is desired related to sign areas. Members noted this information could be obtained during the meetings and also a future meeting with the Jordan Area Chamber of Commerce.

Members discussed the following changes to the current ordinance:

Exempt Signs- The number of flags permitted in residential districts was listed as three. References to the size limitation were removed.

Banners were moved to “temporary signs” with additional language included relating to grand openings, special events and other banners.

Monument signs for subdivisions were added to Special Provisions, Subd. 9G.

Civic signs were included as signs allowable through the issuance of a conditional use permit in the Commercial Districts.

Setbacks for signs from residentially zoned property was added (5’ setback).

Free-standing signs were included as permitted in the highway commercial and industrial districts and allowable through a conditional use permit in the neighborhood commercial and downtown commercial districts.

Real estate signs were limited to (8) square feet in the R-1, R-2, and R-3 Districts.

References to bonuses for the maximum square footage of signs were removed from the text and Table A.

Members again noted that additional information is sought from the community as the process occurs and hearing from business owners would be great during this process. Foust provided a handout related to electronic message boards, vehicle signs, video display signs, and time and temperature sign standards from the City of Bloomington.

B. Planning Commission Position Openings

Janish noted that the City Council appointed a member to serve a vacant position due to a resignation at one of their last meetings. The issue that arose is the appointed member was appointed to serve a term that expired December 2011. Janish noted that the Planning Commission may want to consider making a recommendation to the City Council to re-appoint this person to serve the next three year term for this specific position.

Motion Sand, seconded by Will, to re-appoint Mr. Gene Flynn to serve on the Planning Commission with a term to expire December 2014. Motion passed, Flynn abstain.

Members also discussed the process in which folks are appointed to the Planning Commission. Commissioners noted that it may be more appropriate for the City Council to conduct the interviews, so they are present to hear the responses to the questions.

Consensus was to ask the City Council to consider amending the City Code to have the City Council conduct interviews for appointment to the Planning Commission as opposed to the Commission conducting the interviews.

C. Introduction to New Members

Janish noted that in the past members have introduced themselves to the new members. Since the Planning Commission has several recent additions it may be appropriate to share a little about themselves in order to let the new members know a little about everyone.

Members provided a brief introduction about themselves.

6.0 Old Business.

None.

7.0 Planners Report.

None.

8.0 Commissioner Report.

A commissioner questioned if it would be possible to have a satellite restroom or “port-a-potty” at Lagoon Park in the winter.

10.0 Adjournment.

Motion Ewals, seconded Sand to adjourn the Planning Commission meeting at 9:30 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Janish
Senior Planner