



City of Statesboro
Department of Planning and Development Memorandum

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Statesboro Planning Commission

November 7, 2017

5:00 P.M.

City Hall Council Chamber

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Planning Commission Members James W. Byrd, Sr., Jamey Cartee, Ben McKay, David McLendon, and Russell Rosengart; **Absent:** Planning Commission Members Carlos C. Brown, Jr. and Mary Foreman. **City of Statesboro Staff:** Planning and Development Director Frank Neal, City Planner Sharon Anton, Code Compliance Officer Mike Chappel, Code Compliance Officer Scott Brunson, Public Works Director Jason Boyles

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Byrd called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

II. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Byrd requested a moment of silence out of respect for victims of the recent mass shooting at a church in Texas. The invocation and pledge of allegiance were given by Commissioner McLendon.

III. Motion to Approve Order of the Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve the order of the meeting agenda, seconded by Commissioner McKay. The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes

1.) October 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner McKay made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2017 Planning Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cartee and carried 5-0.

2.) October 18, 2017 Special Called Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Rosegart made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting of the Planning Commission. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

V. New Business

1. **APPLICATION # SE 17-02-01:** Marilyn Knight requests a special exception to utilize the property located at 404 North Avenue as a childcare center with a capacity of fifty-two (52) children in the R8 zoning district (Tax Parcel MS40 000051 000).

Frank Neal presented the case to the commissioners on behalf of Marilyn Knight and property owner Mary Williams. Mr. Neal took questions on the proposal and affirmed that the Commission had heard this request several months prior (in March) but due to delays related to the state permit process, the exception which had been granted was now expired and a new one was needed. Vernon and Marilyn Knight spoke to the Commission and gave additional details on the difficulties and delays they had experienced in their state permit process. Commissioner Byrd inquired whether the state permit packet has now been corrected, to which the applicants replied that it has and that they need this exception to proceed to the second part of the state process. Commissioner McLendon motioned to approve the exception and Commissioner Cartee seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

2. **APPLICATION # V 17-11-02:** Anchor Signs, Inc. requests a variance from Article XV Section 1509(C) Table 4 of the Statesboro Zoning Ordinance for 1.15 acres of property located at 412 Northside Drive East regarding the maximum square footage allowed for building signs in Sign District 2 (Tax Parcel # MS72 000014 000).

Frank Neal presented the case to the commissioners and took any questions. Mike Cohen, of Anchor Signs, Inc. also spoke on behalf of this request. No one spoke against the request. The Commission engaged in some discussion on the specifics of the sign and trends in signage requests coming before the Commission, and whether or not there was the potential for setting a precedent of granting sign variances. Commissioner Cartee mentioned that it may be worth considering the idea of ratio based sign requirements or some other alternative at some point in the future. Commissioner McLendon made a motion to approve the variance, which was seconded by Commissioner Cartee. The motion carried 5-0.

VI. Announcements

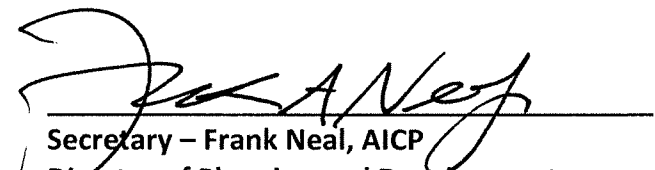
Frank Neal introduced new City of Statesboro staff member Sharon Anton to the Commission.

VII. Adjourn

Commissioner McLendon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McKay and the motion carried 5-0.



Chair – James W. Byrd, Sr.



Secretary – Frank Neal, AICP
Director of Planning and Development