

City of Norwich
Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
Norwich City Court

October 19, 2015
7:00 PM

Present: R. Mirabito, D. DeForest, L. Bunce, S. Prentice

Absent: M. Stewart, J. Miller, H. Graves, K. Campbell,

Staff: T. Dreyer, J. Lawrence, A. Donnison

I. Call to Order:

Chairman R. Mirabito called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Minutes of May 18, 2015 approved on a motion by S. Prentice. Seconded by D. DeForest. Ayes all.

II. City of Norwich Sign Ordinance:

A. Donnison stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals as a whole has heard many cases for request for area variance in the current sign ordinance. The request range from small increase to what is permitted by right to significant increases. Some are approved as requested and some are approved at a reduction to the original request. Due to the high volume of sign variance requests being heard the question has come up by the Zoning Board of appeals and that since it has been many years since the sign dimensions for the various zones around the city has been reviewed or amended that it may be time. Discussion about the total square footage of signage allowed in residential areas as compared to business or industrial areas ensued, using the sign ordinance as a guide.

S. Prentice inquired if it was appropriate for the Zoning Board to hear these cases. A. Donnison stated yes, it was the function of the ZBA to do so but they simply are asking about a possible need to review. D. DeForest believes the current process is working so why change. L. Bunce agreed that for now let it continue as is since each parcel is different not only in dimension, location, zone and setback that each parcel can get individual attention by means of the Zoning Board of Appeals. R. Mirabito stated there seems to be a consensus among the members to leave the current sign ordinance as it is.

Motion made by S. Prentice to keep the current City of Norwich Sign Ordinance as it is. Seconded by L. Bunce. Ayes all.

IV Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned on a motion made by S. Prentice at 7:22 pm seconded by D. DeForest. Ayes all.