



RUTLAND CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

City Hall – 52 Washington St. – Rutland, VT 05701
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Amended Minutes October 26, 2016

Present: Susan Schreibman (SS), Alvin Figiel (AF), Dave Coppock (DC), Patrick Griffin (PG) and Larry Walter (LW).

Also present: Tara Kelly, Zoning and Planning Administrator.

SS, Chair, called the meet to order at 5:30 pm.

I. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS – SS asked to add Speed Limits under New Business. DC so moved and AF seconded. The addition was approved unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 12, 2016.

DC moved to approve the minutes of October 12, 2016. AF seconded. There was discussion regarding clarification of changes to 1407 (B). It was agreed that the change reflected in the minutes was correct. Motion carried 4-0 with PG abstaining.

IV. NEW BUSINESS – Speed Limits.

SS said that Ted Shattuck and Russ Lennon are revisiting the “25 Saves Lives” campaign to lower the City speed limit to 25mph. SS said that following several presentations by Kevin Geno and herself the issue stalled with the Traffic Safety Committee. Ted and Russ are looking for support from the Rutland City Planning Commission to reinvigorate the issue. LW volunteered to work with them and SS said she would get him the contact information.

V. OLD BUSINESS – Rutland Sign Ordinance.

On the recommendation of Tara, SS suggested to table the discussion of Special Signs. Tara volunteered to bring tangibles and visuals to the next meeting to assist in the discussion of Special Signs.

AF asked to discuss the inclusion of internally illuminated signs in the Downtown. He said at a recent Architectural Review Committee meeting, an internally illuminated sign for Castleton University at 50-54 Merchants Row was approved which made him rethink where these signs may be appropriate in the [City] downtown. DC added that a double standard was created with the allowance of [neon] internally illuminated signs in the [downtown] plaza. DC is more concerned with the amount of illumination.

Considerable discussion followed regarding the lights in the Plaza and under what circumstances those lights would fall under the rules of the City sign ordinance; and how

to effectively amend the Table in the proposed sign ordinance to allow internally illuminated signs in some areas of the City.

AF proposed removing District C altogether and removing internal illumination from Prohibitions in District A. The motion was seconded and it carried unanimously.

The following changes were made to 9.9 Exempt Signs allowed without a permit:

1. Remove.
2. (1) Change [administrative officer] to building inspector and add rolling stock.
3. (2) No change.
4. (3) Define "posters."
5. (4) No change.
6. (5) Change [Town of Manchester] to City of Rutland.
7. (6) No change.
8. (7) Remove [Up to four signs per lot are exempt under this provision; the administrative officer may issue permits for additional signs, upon filing of an application and a demonstration of the necessity for those signs.] Remove [Lettering shall be generic and...or logos...(including business names)]. Change sentence to Advertising is prohibited on directional signs.
9. (8) No change.

The following changes were made to 9.10 Prohibited Signs:

1. No change.
2. Remove [motor vehicle] change to motorized or non-motorized vehicle.
3. The Commission decided to think about pennants, ribbons, balloons, streamers or spinners for the next meeting. Change the sentence Commercial holiday decorations, displays or lights are specifically excluded from this restriction and remove [from one week before Thanksgiving until January 31.] Remove [during the dark season as defined by Eastern Standard Time (from the last Sunday in October to the first Sunday in April.)]
4. Remove [motor vehicle] change to motorized or non-motorized vehicle.
5. No change.
6. No change.
7. Add as determined by the building inspector.
8. No change.
9. Remove.
10. (9) No change.
11. (10) The Commission will revisit after review of Section 1451 of the current sign ordinance.
12. (11) No Change.
13. (12) No Change.

The following changes were made to 9:11 Non-Operational Businesses:

Change [administrative officer] to building inspector.

The next meeting will address how to treat signs for properties with multiple uses. Tara suggested the Committee look at Howe Center and Tenney Brook prior to that meeting.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE – None.

VII. ADJOURN

The next meeting will be held November 16 provided there is no DRB meeting scheduled that night. PG moved to adjourn. DC seconded. The meeting ended at 7 pm.

For the Commission
Barbara Spaulding, Recording Secretary