



Minutes of the **Regular Meeting** of the **Riverdale City Planning Commission** held Tuesday, **April 10, 2012 at 6:35 p.m.** at the Riverdale Civic Center, 4600 South Weber River Drive.

Members Present: Brent Ellis, Chairman
Bart Stevens, Commissioner
Steve Hilton, Commissioner
Kathy Eskelsen, Commissioner
David Gailey, Commissioner

Members Excused: Blair Jones, Vice-Chairman
Lori Fleming, Commissioner

Others Present: Randy Daily, Community Development Director, Ember Herrick, City Recorder and no members of the public.

A. Welcome & Roll Call

Chairman Ellis welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated for the record all members were present except for Vice-Chairman Jones and Commissioner Fleming who are excused. He said because there are no members of the public here to attend tonight's meeting, the Planning Commission is convening upstairs in the Conference Room.

B. Open Communications

Chairman Ellis noted that there are no members of the public to speak during the open communications portion of the meeting.

C. Presentations and Reports

Community Development Director Randy Daily said there are no new items on the Community Development Report. Mr. Daily said the east side of Riverdale Road is developing with the addition of a new Best Buy building and the introduction of Gordmans and Shoe Carnival to the city. Commissioner Eskelsen asked if Best Buy will be affected by recent corporate downsizing and Mr. Daily said although the electronics market has been affected by online sales, he is optimistic that the local store will do well in their new location. According to Mr. Daily, the company has invested a lot of money into their new Riverdale location. Commissioner Hilton said he hopes Best Buy's corporate restructuring strategy will work so that they will continue to operate their business successfully in Riverdale for many years to come.

D. Consent Items

Chairman Ellis asked for any changes or corrections to the previous meeting minutes and none were noted.

Motion: Commissioner Eskelsen moved to approve the consent items.
Commissioner Gailey seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on the motion.

Call the Question: The motion passed unanimously.

E. Action Items

1. Review, discuss and set public hearing for proposed changes to Title 10 Sign ordinance RCC 10-16-1 through 3.

Chairman Ellis said the first item on the agenda is a discussion about RCC 10-16-1 through 3, the city's sign ordinance. Mr. Daily asked if the Commission wants to go through the ordinance line by line or if they would rather table the discussion until he can arrange for a sign expert to come and speak with them at their next meeting to answer any technical questions they may have. He asked if any members of the Commission have identified any problems with the current draft of the amended ordinance and Commissioner Hilton said he appreciated all the electronic sign information included in the packet. Commissioner Hilton suggested the Planning Commission get further educated about electronic signs by an independent expert before setting a public hearing. Chairman Ellis commended Mr. Daily on his efforts to proactively modernize Riverdale's sign ordinance and said he would like the two excused Commissioners present to hear their perspectives on this proposal before the group sets a public hearing date. Commissioner Hilton said he had looked at other city's sign ordinances and there are a lot of variations from city to city.

Commissioner Stevens asked about sniper signs, motorized signs and people holding signs outside of businesses on the sidewalk in Riverdale. Mr. Daily said sniper signs are addressed in the city's current ordinance and motorized signs seem to be getting phased out. He said the Planning Commission can address putting additional regulations in place for people holding signs because the city's sidewalks are designed for pedestrian traffic, not for advertising. Mr. Daily said if restrictions are put in place the Planning Commission needs to remember that those same regulations will also apply to fundraising car washes and other charitable events when people may stand on street corners holding signs. Commissioner Hilton said he would like the size of these signs addressed in the ordinance and a clause prohibiting a sign from impeding traffic or the view of motorists on Riverdale City streets. Commissioner Stevens said in his opinion business employees standing on sidewalks leaning into the street waving signs creates a safety hazard the city should regulate. He suggested the new electronic sign technology be addressed separately in the ordinance from the regulations about where signs can be placed, their size, and whether or not people can wave them at traffic from the sidewalks in front of businesses. According to Mr. Daily, portable electronic signs with wheels are prohibited under the current ordinance.

Commissioner Eskelsen said in cities she has visited in Mexico there is a rope line separating the vendors from the people to prevent peddlers from accosting vacationers. She said she would like Riverdale to address aggressive advertising before it becomes so intrusive people start complaining. **Chairman Ellis asked for consensus to delay the public hearing until the Planning Commission can hear from a signs expert and unanimous consensus was reached.** Mr. Daily said he would look for an expert to come answer the Planning Commission's questions. Commissioner Gailey said he would also like to hear input from the two members of the Planning Commission excused from tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Stevens asked Mr. Daily if he had approached the City Council about any of his proposed changes to the sign ordinance and Mr. Daily said he had not. Commissioner Stevens said he doesn't want the Planning Commission to invest a lot of time and effort into updating the city's sign ordinance if the Council isn't willing to implement any of their proposed changes by

amending RCC 10-16-1 through 3. Mr. Daily said he is confident the Council will realize the need to update the ordinance to address new sign technology with the potential to impact residents. Commissioner Stevens said he had additional suggestions to the proposed language and Mr. Daily asked him to email his input to him for consideration of being incorporated into the latest draft of the ordinance.

No action was taken on this item.

F. Discretionary Items

Chairman Ellis asked for any discretionary items and Mr. Daily informed the Planning Commission that he had asked the City Administrator Larry Hansen about the Planning Commission's request for iPads. According to Mr. Daily, Mr. Hansen is not opposed to the change but the city's Business Administrator Lynn Fortie would like the Planning Commission to continue using their laptops as they are in good condition and the iPads cost approximately \$500 each. Mr. Daily said he had conveyed the Commission's complaints about their slow laptops and inability to access the internet when they are in the conference room upstairs to Mr. Fortie and he had said he would be willing to increase the RAM on the laptops and set the computers up to use the city's wireless network. Mr. Daily encouraged Commissioners Gailey and Stevens and any other members of the Planning Commission experiencing problems with their laptops to contact Mr. Fortie. Commissioner Eskelsen said Mr. Fortie had set her laptop up to access the city's WiFi network and she complimented him on his efforts to address her computer concerns. Commissioner Hilton suggested Mr. Fortie attend the next Planning Commission work session to set up the member's laptops with WiFi access and Mr. Daily said he would follow up on this request with Mr. Fortie.

Chairman Ellis asked Mr. Daily about Riverdale City t-shirts for the Planning Commission and Mr. Daily said he would have Riverdale's Administrative Assistant Lynette Limburg follow up on this request.

Motion: There being no further business to come before the Planning Commission, Commissioner Hilton moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Eskelsen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Approved: May 8, 2012

Attest:

Brent Ellis, Chairman

Ember Herrick, City Recorder