

BRISTOL VIRGINIA PLANNING COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Monday, April 16, 2018
12:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:	MEMBERS ABSENT:	STAFF:	OTHERS:
Kevin Wingard		Sally Morgan	Scott Campbell
Todd Buchanan		Amy Thompson	Nancy Marney
Jordan Pennington		Gene Christian	
Michael Pollard			
Susan Long			
Bart Long			
Anthony Farnum			

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pennington called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM (*Todd Buchanan arrived at 12:20 PM*)

II. Approval of March 5, 2018 Work Session and March 19, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Planning Commission member, Kevin Wingard, asked to strike his name from the “Members Present” list in the minutes of the March 19 meeting due to his absence from that meeting.

Planning Commissioner, Ms. Long, made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2018 regular meeting with the requested change and the March 5, 2018 Work Session. Motion was seconded by Planning Commissioner Pollard and carried by the following votes:

AYES: Buchanan, B. Long, Farnum, S. Long, Pollard, and Pennington
 ABSTAINS: Wingard

III. Public Comment (for items not on the agenda)

Scott Campbell asked if he could speak later after there was discussion of the sign ordinance.

IV. New Business

A. None Scheduled

V. Old Business

A. Zoning Ordinance Revision Project- Work Session

Ms. Morgan proceeded to start where the last work session on March 5 left off on Division 14 – Outdoor Advertising (renamed “Signs”). She provided a draft for the zoning work session notebooks labeled April 11, 2018 at the top right. This draft has the purpose statement revised in Section 50-231 as discussed at the March 5 session and also the renaming of that section from “Policy” to “Purpose.” There were no objections to renaming that section.

Ms. Morgan also proposed that Section 50-232 Definitions be moved to the definitions chapter of the ordinance, so that all zoning definitions are in one section. The draft contains a new Section 50-232 to state that a permit is required for signs, and renumbered Section 50-233 which contains numerous exceptions to this requirement.

There was discussion regarding signs that are exempt from permits. Ms. Morgan said that she had revised the earlier draft to not separate the exempted signs based on whether they were on public or private property but to list them all together. She highlighted one item asking members for their opinions on the description of “incidental signs.” Several members suggested excluding specific signs for residential zones or reducing the size of incidental signs in residential areas in the description of what is exempted from permitting.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding roof, portable, vehicular and electronic message signs. Planning Commissioners, Mr. Wingard and Mr. Long, commented on the prohibition of some of these particular signs. Mr. Wingard stressed the importance of not placing a burden on small businesses in the city, saying that large businesses are accustomed to strict sign regulations but that small businesses need all the advantages to help them cut costs.

Ms. Nancy Marney commented on the prohibition of specific signs and why sign ordinances were drafted.

Mr. Scott Campbell showed a short video to the Planning Commission members regarding The Village development sign at Exit 7 blocking the Road Runner convenience store sign on Old Airport Road.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at PM.

Sally H. Morgan
City Planner