

**CITY OF PHOENIX PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTION. Chair Summerhays called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 6.30 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Lewin, Eisenhauer, Couch, Atkin, Farlow, Weiss (joined the meeting at 6.40p.m.) and Chair Summerhays. There was a quorum. Staff in attendance were Planning Director Matt Brinkley and Assistant Planner Steffen Roennfeldt.

II. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None.

III. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR:

Commissioner Eisenhauer nominated Commissioner Lewin for vice-chair; Commissioner Atkin nominated Commissioner Eisenhauer. There was a secret ballot. The votes were as follows:

Commissioner Lewin: (4)

Commissioner Eisenhauer: (3)

Commissioner Couch nominated Chair Summerhays for chair; Commissioner Atkin nominated Commissioner Eisenhauer. There was a secret ballot. The votes were as follows:

Chair Summerhays: (5)

Commissioner Eisenhauer: (2)

IV. Consent Calendar:

A. Approval of Minutes from December 8, 2014 – Regular Planning Commission Meeting.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LEWIN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EISENHAUER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES, AS AMENDED, FROM DECEMBER 8, 2014 – REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS LEWIN, EISENHAUER, COUCH, ATKIN AND CHAIR SUMMERHAYS (5)

NAYS: NONE (0)

ABSTENTIONS: COMMISSIONERS FARLOW AND WEISS (not yet appointed at time of meeting)

V. NEW BUSINESS: None

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Public Hearing on LDC14-12, Amending Chapter 3.6, Signs, continued from December 8, 2014.

Chair Summerhays explained the proceedings of a public hearing. She stated that the public hearing was left open at the last regular planning commission meeting to gather more information for this meeting. Chair Summerhays then turned to Mr. Brinkley for the Staff Report.

Mr. Brinkley introduced Mr. Chavez who was in attendance. He said he was an interested business owner. Brinkley also said that he had not received any responses to the letters the Department had sent out to all registered businesses regarding the proposed sign regulations.

Mr. Brinkley continued his presentation from the last meeting. Among other topics, there was discussion about hand-held signs. Commissioner Eisenhower wanted to know if it was the responsibility of the business or the individual to obtain a permit for hand-held signs. Mr. Brinkley said that it was the responsibility of the business.

Additionally, there was discussion about sign definitions, minor syntactical errors, temporary balloons, content neutrality, signs in the right-of-way, illumination standards, and Electronic Changeable Message Signs and videoboards.

Mr. Brinkley talked about the "Public Arts Counsel" again and asked the Planning Commission to find a name for the committee. After discussing the topic, the Commissioners agreed to name the committee the "Phoenix Arts Counsel."

Chair Summerhays asked for public input.

Mr. Tony Chavez, 210 Church Street, said that most of his questions were already answered during the meeting but, in addition, he wanted to know if there would be a permit fee for murals. Mr. Brinkley replied that it would be up to the Arts Counsel to come up with a fee or not.

Mr. Chavez also wanted to know how political signs, especially in parades, would be treated under the new ordinance. Mr. Brinkley said that this is probably not a sign ordinance question. It will likely be up to the organizers of the parade to allow or prohibit those kinds of signs. Mr. Chavez's final question had to do with signs on the soon to be installed "free library boxes." Mr. Brinkley said that it would have to be discussed on a case-by-case basis whether those signs required permits or not.

Chair Summerhays closed the public hearing and opened the hearing up for deliberation. There was no further deliberation.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER COUCH, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ATKIN, TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 3.6 – SIGNS WITH THE AFFIXED CHANGES SPOKEN OF AT TONIGHTS MEETING AND FORWARD IT TO CITY COUNCIL.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS LEWIN, EISENHAUER, COUCH, ATKIN AND CHAIR SUMMERHAYS (5)

NAYS: NONE (0)

ABSTENTIONS: COMMISSIONERS FARLOW AND WEISS (neither having been appointed to the Planning Commission prior to this meeting)

- VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Chavez wanted to know more about the proposed “Phoenix Arts Council.” Mr. Brinkley said that he would look into the rules about creating a public board/committee shortly and he will then bring it before City Council.

There was discussion whether current Planning Commission members could also serve on the Budget Committee. Mr. Brinkley said that he will talk to the Finance Director and City Attorney about that.

- VIII. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:** Commissioner Eisenhauer talked about the last Phoenix Urban Renewal meeting. It is his feeling that most of the matter that was discussed in earlier “market hall” meetings is not going to happen due to budget issues and that there is definitely going to be a change to what was discussed earlier. Mr. Brinkley pointed out that when the architect first started working on the project, there were no constraints at all. Mr. Brinkley then explained the discussed changes, for example the extension of Second and Third Street, the interior road (Park Street) alignment, fill, retaining walls, and deed restrictions.

Commissioner Lewin wanted to know the City’s position of e-cigarettes and recreational marijuana can be smoked. Mr. Brinkley said that recreational marijuana, as part of the State Law, cannot be smoked in public. There was discussion.

Also, he wanted to know if there was any development on the road design for OR-99. Mr. Brinkley said that the design for the “road diet” on OR-99 is just about done. He added that the TGM grant was approved and the City received notice to proceed last week.

- IX. PLANNING DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Brinkley said that he will present department goals for this year to City Council. Almost all the goals will have to do with the Urban Growth Boundary amendment, including several updates to the Comprehensive Plan.

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Summerhays adjourned the meeting at 8.50 p.m.

Micki Summerhays, Chair

Matt Brinkley, Planning Director