

City of Lynnwood
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
 October 23, 2008

Commissioners Present:	Staff Present:
Richard Wright, Chair	Kevin Garrett, Planning Manager
Maria Ambalada	David Osaki, Deputy Director
Jeff Davies	Shay Davidson, Admin. Asst.
Elisa Elliott, First Vice-chair	
Bob Larsen	Other:
Michael Wojack, Second Vice-chair	Councilmember Ted Hikel
Commissioners Absent:	
Tia Peycheff	

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wright at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

1. Meeting of September 11, 2008

Motion made by Commissioner Ambalada, seconded by Commissioner Davies, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously (6-0).

Council Liaison Report

Councilmember Ted Hikel stated that the annexation meetings have started. Five of the twelve meetings have been held with very good responses from those involved.

Citizen Comments

None.

Public Hearings

None.

Work Sessions

1. **Civic Banners and Signs Code Amendment (2008CAM0005).**
 Amendments to Chapter 21.16 (Signs) and Chapter 5.30 of the Municipal Code regarding signs and banners for civic events.

Staff Presentation:

Deputy Director of Community Development David Osaki reviewed the draft ordinance. He explained that the Planning Commission has the authority and responsibility to take public comment on the zoning code amendments related to this before making a recommendation to the Council. He explained that a major reason for looking at this amendment is that the City will be sponsoring a series of civic events related to the 50th anniversary of the cityCity. The current code does not really address banners and signs in the context of a series of ongoing civic events. The proposed code attempts to address this. He explained that this will be coming forward at a public hearing in the future. He explained that the public hearing is necessary because of the amendments to the zoning code.

Comments and Questions:

Commissioner Ambalada expressed a concern about signs for businesses. She suggested some clarification about rules and regulations for business signs when people apply for their business permit. Mr. Osaki emphasized that anyone who is considering putting up a sign should come and talk to them first.

Chair Wright suggested that this topic might not be germane to the topic of signage for civic events. Ms. Ambalada discussed the importance of inclusiveness and the fact that businesses might want to promote multicultural civic events.

Councilmember Hikel gave some background on this code.

Chair Wright commented that under C, the last sentence names the City as an additional insured. He noted that some organizations might not have the resources to be able to pay for \$1,000,000 worth of coverage for a day. He asked if there is currently any ability for somebody to sign an indemnification to the City. Mr. Osaki indicated that he would need to check on that.

2. Swift BRT Stations Code Amendment (2008CAM0006)

Amendment to Chapter 21.46 (Commercial Zones) of the Zoning Code regarding landscaping areas and parking spaces on private property that are replaced by stations for the Swift Bus Rapid Transit service.

Staff Presentation:

Planning Manager Kevin Garrett stated that they have scheduled a public hearing on November 13 for this item. He reviewed some background regarding BRT stations and Community Transit's plans for construction. He discussed the Development Agreement between the City of Lynnwood and Community Transit. Paragraph 9 of that Agreement provides that the City will consider this ordinance.

Commissioner Elliott asked if the Swift stations would have their own landscaping. Planning Manager Garrett replied that they would not be putting in landscaping. They are just acquiring rights to the minimum area to build the stations, including the concrete and the shelters. He noted, however, that there is an arts component that will be incorporated into each station.

There was discussion about the impacts of loss of parking for some property owners. There was also discussion about possible impacts on stormwater drainage and mitigation for that. Councilmember Hikel commented on specific properties.

Commissioner Wojack asked what would happen if property is sold. Mr. Garrett stated that the easement will be recorded on the deed.

Other Business

None.

Director's Report & Information

Next meeting: November 13 – Hearings on ordinances for Signs and Banners and Swift BRT Stations.

Mr. Garrett gave an update on the annexation outreach meetings. He reported that they have had the first five outreach meetings and will be doing seven more. A summary of comments will be coming to Council and the Planning Commission at the end. There was discussion about some of the comments they have heard so far at the meetings.

There was some discussion on possible training opportunities for the Planning Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ambalada moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.


Richard Wright, Chair