

MINUTES
AUSTIN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2004
5:30 P.M.
AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian D. Johnson, Janet Anderson, Sue Grove, Glen Mair, Suzanne McCarthy, Sue Howard, Norm Hecimovich, Rich Bergstrom and Gordon Kuehne

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Hoium, Craig Byram, Council member Dick Pacholl, Elizabeth Bankes, Lynn Spainhower, media and public

The meeting was called to order by Commission Member Brian D. Johnson at 5:30 P.M.

Commission Member Anderson made a motion to approve the November 9, 2004 minutes as written, seconded by Commission Member Mair. Motion passed unanimously.

Craig Hoium introduced Lynn Spainhower and Elizabeth Bankes as new Planning Commission candidates. They will take the places of Norm Hecimovich and Sue Howard starting January 2005 upon City Council approval.

ORDINANCE REVIEW: Review of draft ordinance providing regulations for the outside storage of motor vehicles and recreational vehicles.

Craig Hoium reviewed the ordinance draft pointing out the changes and additions. Most of these proposed changes involved language in the definition section.

Craig Byram stated that the repealed section talks about Section 10.14 and the wording about inoperable vehicles is confusing with the new changes. Reading further he thinks we should take out this Section Subd. 1A & 2. Also the surfacing material is described as concrete or asphalt in Subd.1(E). Then later gravel or brick is said to be okay in Subd.2(I).

Commission Member Kuehne asked Mr. Byram if he wants to blend the two.

Mr. Byram said Subd.2(I) could be put into Subd.1(E). A front yard driveway surfaced with appropriate material. Also in Subd.4 the language could be cleaner.

Commission Member Johnson asked if there were any other comments. He then said in Subd.1(F), temporary storage is different than in Subd.2, B, 1(b). He suggests taking out the definition in Subd.1(F).

Mr. Byram said you will need to save the setback wording in that definition.

Commission Member Johnson asked Mr. Hoium if that was okay.

Mr. Hoium replied yes.

Commission Member McCarthy asked if motorcycles should be added in Subd.1(G).

Commission Member Johnson said yes he thinks it should be.

Commission Member Kuehne asked about an existing parking space a resident has made in the front yard for a 30 foot RV. Is that type of thing going to be grandfathered in?

Mr. Hoium said Subd.2,C states on the driveway or adjacent to the driveway. So I would have to say no. The vehicle would have to be moved to the sideway and not extend past the front exterior wall of the primary structure on the property.

Commission Member Johnson asked if we need to state that this ordinance is effective immediately.

Mr. Hoium said the council first has to approve the ordinance and then ten days after it is published in the newspaper it becomes effective. Mr. Byram could probably advise us on this.

Mr. Byram said the residential portion is effective immediately and enforceable as soon as it is adopted and becomes official.

Mr. Hoium said one of the reasons for drafting this ordinance is to resolve existing violations. With the wording of our current ordinance our hands are tied in many situations .

Commission Member Kuehne said Subd. 1(H) defines a front yard. What is the front yard on corner properties?

Commission Member Anderson asked if it went by the address.

Mr. Hoium said it depends on the dimensions of the lot, Subd.1(I) covers this and there are provisions in this ordinance draft that allows us to reference yard definitions in Chapter 11.

Commission Member Kuehne made a motion to recommend approval of the proposed City Code Chapter 10.33 to provide regulations for the parking or storage of motor vehicles and recreational vehicles and adopting by reference, City Code Chapter 1 which, among other things, contains penalty provisions, with the changes Mr. Byram suggested. Motion seconded by Commission Member Mair. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Hoium reviewed the memo concerning the “2004 Austin Community Development Division Economic Growth Report”. If there are any questions about the memo call Mr. Hoium. He also wanted to thank Norm Hecimovich and Sue Howard for their years of service on the Planning Commission. There is a dinner in the conference room following the meeting tonight to show our appreciation of their service.

ADJOURN:

Commission Member Bergstrom made a motion to adjourn the Planning Commission Meeting, seconded by Commission Member Hecimovich. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:07 P.M.

