

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeff Bednar, Dan Hirst, Steve Kime, Jodi Krueger, Jim Mino, Troy Nelson, Lonnie Skalicky, Lynn Spainhower, and Holly Wallace

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Craig Byram, Craig Hoium, Council Member Judy Enright, and public

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Commissioner Spainhower with no corrections to the agenda.

Commissioner Nelson requested a change to the April 12, 2011 Planning Commission Minutes on page 3 paragraph 2. "Commissioner" Enright should be changed to "Council Member" Enright. The change was noted and Commissioner Bednar made a motion to approve the April 12, 2011 Planning Commission Minutes with said change, seconded by Commissioner Wallace. Motion passed unanimously.

**Sign Appeal:** To consider a request from Fairway Outdoor Advertising, 1734 15<sup>th</sup> St NW, Suite 3, Rochester, MN for a sign appeal for the replacement of a non-conforming billboard sign face located at the intersection of 12<sup>th</sup> St SW and 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SW. Said action is pursuant to City Code Section 4.50, Subd.6 (E), Subd.12 and Subd.13, (H)

Craig Hoium reviewed the Fairway Outdoor Advertising sign appeal which the City Council referred back to the Planning Commission. These two existing billboards are located in a B-2 District which is mostly commercial land-uses and some scattered residential. The sign appeal is to install one new panel billboard with landscaping under the sign. Other material was included regarding illuminated signs currently located at Oak Park Mall, and Riverland in Austin and others located in Rochester at various locations as well as accident totals and traffic counts. Commissioner Wallace asked if there were any plans in place to redesign this intersection and Mr. Hoium indicated he was not aware of any plans at this time to change the intersection and traffic counts vary due to the intersecting driving routes.

Carl Hines, Fairway representative, explained the sign to be 25-30 feet high and 18-17 feet to the ground. There will be a 10 foot higher difference in the billboard. The advertisements on the sign will change every 8-9 seconds and the landscaping will be maintained or 11 seconds, if required by MNDOT Standards. Mr. Hines indicated the light from the billboard will not affect the traffic lights.

Jay Sauber, General Manager of Fairway, chose Austin to be a location for a billboard of the future. This new advertisement will assist more clients and help Austin be the best it can be moving into the future of billboards.

Roger Brown, 1605 12<sup>th</sup> Street South, Brookings, SD, works for Dextron, the company who maintains the signs illumination and upholds safety standards. Mr. Brown explained the illumination of the sign during daylight hours as needing to be as bright as possible (100%), like a flashlight being used during daylight hours. During night hours light is lowered automatically to possibly 4%. There are Federal Government Lighting Standards that regulate the light levels. The billboard can change light illumination every ten minutes automatically. This way headlights during evening hours will not affect the billboard. The brighter the sign the more electricity will cost; therefore, advertisers will see the cost difference in keeping the sign less bright. LED light are focus lights, which put light in one direction.

Commissioner Mino made a motion to recommend approval of the Fairway sign appeal based on standards to be more appropriate changing from two signs to one sign. Seconded by Commission Skalicky. Motion passed unanimously.

**Sign Appeal:** To consider a request from Wyn Alexander, Farm Bureau Financial Services, 908 12<sup>th</sup> St SW, for a sign appeal for the placement of a wall sign which will not face at public road or alley. This property under question is located in a "B-2" Community Business District with said action being pursuant to City Code Section 4.50, Schedule IV (1), (B), and Subd.13

Craig Hoium described the property as being located in a B-2 District. The sign appeal is for a four by six foot sign on the south exterior wall centered and up between the windows.

Wyn Alexander, 105 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW, Byron from Farm Bureau explained the sign to be facing the south.

Commissioner Skalicky made a motion to approve the sign appeal and Commissioner Kime second the motion and passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Hirst passing unanimously.

The Planning commission meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.