

MINUTES
AUSTIN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011
5:30 P.M.
AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

MEMBER ABSENT: Lynn Spainhower

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Byram, Craig Hoium and Public

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Commissioner Mino with no corrections to the agenda. Commissioner Wallace made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2011 Planning Commission Meeting. Commissioner Hirst seconded the motion and with all members in favor the motion passed unanimously.

Open Public Hearing: To consider a request from the Austin Public School District, 401 3rd Ave NW for a conditional use permit for the construction of an 8,000 square foot classroom addition to Woodson School located at 1601 4th St SE. This property is located in an "R-1" Single-Family Residence with said action pursuant to Austin City Code Sections 11.30, Subd.3(A) and 11.56.

Mr. Hoium explained the Woodson School expansion stating the location of the school is in an R-1 Single Family Residence. Open Public Hearing Notice went out to the surrounding owners and the southern boundary of the property is adjacent to Austin Township. The expansion site drainage has been approved by the City Engineer's Office, meets all required set backs and development standards. Landscaping to the east should be more defined for a barrier from residential housing. Mr. Hoium also reviewed traffic counts and road design capacities of 4th Street SE.

Ron Spoden from ATS & R Architects, 8501 Golden Valley Road, Minneapolis, MN requested clarification regarding the east barrier. Mr. Hoium requested a softer separation for the school and residential area.

Mark Hayes from ATS & R Architects, 8501 Golden Valley Road, Minneapolis, MN spoke about the exterior lighting consisting of four new light poles with the removal of three old poles. There is also security lighting on the existing building that will remain in place. Upon receiving bids there may be an addition of a link between the south end of the existing school and the new expansion which will allow for a potential exit at the south end of the school.

Commissioner Kime made a motion to approve the requested conditional use permit amendment open public hearing for the Woodson expansion with stipulations from Section 11.56 Subd. 1 A-H, Subd. 5 and Subd. 2 along with a landscape plan the conditional stipulations include the following:

- A. The use will not create an excessive burden on existing parks, schools, streets and other public facilities and utilities which serve or are proposed to serve the area.
- B. The use will be sufficiently compatible or separated by distances or screening from adjacent agricultural or residentially zoned or used land so that existing homes will not be depreciated in value and there will be no deterrence to development of vacant land.
- C. The structure and site shall have an appearance that will not have an adverse effect upon adjacent properties.
- D. The use, in the opinion of the Planning Commission, is reasonably related to the overall needs of the City and to the existing land use.
- E. The use is consistent with the purposes of the Zoning Chapter and the purposes of the zoning district in which the applicant intends to locate the proposed use.
- F. The use will not cause traffic hazard or congestion.
- G. Existing businesses nearby will not be adversely affected because of curtailment of customer trade brought about by intrusion of noise, glare or general unsightliness.
- H. The use will not result in unnecessary destruction of natural features such as tree, unusual rock formations, water courses or sites with historical or aesthetic significance.

- Geographical area involved
- Whether such use will depreciate the surrounding area
- Character of surrounding area
- Demonstrated need for such use
- Whether proposed use will cause odors, dust, flies, vermin, smoke, gas, noise, vibrations or would impose hazards to life or property in the neighborhood

Commissioner Skalicky seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Craig Hoium explained the 15 day appeal period and if no appeals are received within that time frame the action taken by the commission at this meeting will be final.

Sign Appeal: To consider a request from the Hormel Foods Corp. for a sign appeal for the placement of a monument freestanding sign at 501 16th Ave NE. This property is located in an "R-O" Multi-Family Office District with said action pursuant to Austin City Code Section 4.50, Subd.9, H.

Commissioner Mino felt he needed refrained from the sign appeal voting; therefore, Commissioner Bednar opened the sign appeal discussion. Mr. Hoium explained the appeal as being located in a residential area and has been requested with the redevelopment of the Hormel Corporate North offices. The location of the sign will be on the inside of the fence and just north of the existing sign it will be replacing. The proposed sign will be larger than the existing sign.

Commissioner Skalicky made a motion to approve the sign appeal with City Council's approval and Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. With all in favor, the sign appeal passed unanimously. Commissioner Mino abstained from voting.

Commissioner Mino made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Krueger seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Planning Commission Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.