

**MINUTES  
CITY OF HEDWIG VILLAGE  
PLANNING AND ZONING MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 05, 2010  
7:00 P.M. – 955 PINEY POINT ROAD**

**#1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Wiener called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

Present:

Bob Wiener, Chairman  
Mark Tidwell  
Larry Opalka  
Bitsy Searcy  
Barbara Abrams  
Pat Murphy (arrived at 7:10 p.m.)  
Sylvie Bucci  
Alan Petrov, City Attorney (arrived at 7:12 p.m.)

Absent:

Frank White  
Michael Schulte  
Bob Dixon, Council Liaison

**#2. RESIDENT/VISITOR COMMENTS**

None.

**#3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Regular Monthly Meeting – October 06, 2009

Member Tidwell moved, Member Searcy seconded, to approve the minutes for October 06, 2009.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**#4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SIGNS IN THE BUSINESS DISTRICTS CONCERNING PARKED VEHICLES DISPLAYING SIGNS**

City Attorney Petrov stated that there are a few vehicles in the city that are parking with signage on them; one of the vehicles did not function. Other cities have changed their sign ordinance to specify the definition of a sign. City Attorney Petrov also stated that the Building Official spoke with the businesses and the businesses removed their vehicles.

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Commission discussed where would the verbiage regarding vehicles as signs be included in the sign ordinance and what would the specific wording and definitions be.

Member Tidwell suggested adding the new verbiage under “Prohibited Signs”, Chairman Wiener agreed. Member Tidwell asked what should be the specific wording.

City Attorney Petrov suggested that the verbiage include “portable signs including stationary vehicles displaying signs for more than four days”.

Member Searcy stated she disagreed with this topic and stated that it conflicts with the businesses personal tastes on decorations of business vehicles.

Chairman Wiener stated that the wording should also include “portable signs including vehicles that are licensed and functioning.”

Member Opalka recommended the wording be included in “Prohibited Signs.”

Chairman Wiener stated the wording should be placed in both “Prohibited Signs” and “Portable Signs.”

Commission discussed if wording should state the time period in the amount of days or hours.

Member Opalka suggested that no time should be entered because businesses could use that to their advantage such as a vehicle advertising a sale over the weekend.

Member Murphy agreed and suggested no time be listed in the wording.

City Attorney Petrov stated that he believed a specific time should be listed in the ordinance.

Member Opalka then suggested 48 hours.

Member Tidwell agreed that was an adequate amount of time.

Member Opalka motioned, Member Tidwell seconded, to approve the wording “Portable signs which includes any vehicle displaying a sign, as that term is defined by Section 202 of the City’s Planning and Zoning Code, and parked in one location within the City for more than forty-eight (48) hours shall be considered a sign and shall be regulated as such in accordance with the requirements and provisions of Section 507 of the City’s Planning and Zoning Code”.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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**#5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING BUILDING HEIGHTS**

Chairman Wiener discussed what occurred at the Joint Meeting with City Council and Planning and Zoning that was held in November. He stated that a proposal was given to the City Council regarding changes in business districts and business uses. Chairman Wiener also stated that building heights were discussed but no proposal was given.

Member Murphy stated that most of the people who attended the meeting were not in favor of increasing building heights.

Member Opalka stated that there is petition on record, which contains over 200 signatures opposing increases of building heights.

Chairman Wiener stated that building heights are a contentious issue and should be handled separately. He also stated that they should move forward with other building issues.

Member Tidwell suggested that the building issues be severed and that they move forward with the redistricting and changes to business uses.

**ITEM WAS TABLED**

**#6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING EXTERIOR COLORS IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS A & C**

**ITEM WAS NOT DISCUSSED AND COMMISSION ASKED IT BE REMOVED FROM FUTURE AGENDAS**

**#7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING LIGHT ORDINANCE**

Member Bucci stated that there were issues of areas with too much light and places regarding not enough light called “dark spaces” in different areas of the City.

Chairman Wiener asked Member Bucci to research the issue and write a report regarding the light issues.

Member Bucci suggested that the ordinance contain wording stating that the lighting cannot annoy residents. She stated that there is nuisance lighting in the residential and commercial districts.

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**ITEM WAS TABLED**

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**#8. DISCUSSION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Member Murphy stated that the subject Long Term Planning Needs should be added with the Comprehensive Plan on the agenda and should be handled jointly.

Chairman Murphy suggested that he, Member Tidwell and Member Murphy meet to go over the comprehensive plan and to revise it.

**ITEM WAS TABLED**

**#9. DISCUSSION OF FRONT YARD SET BACKS**

Chairman Murphy asked for back yard set backs to be added to next month's agenda.

Member Searcy stated she would submit something in writing at next month's meeting.

Chairman Wiener stated that citizen input would be required on this topic.

Member Searcy stated that she understands this subject is a challenging one but she is trying to make the ordinance a little flexible for very wide and not very deep lots.

**ITEM WAS TABLED**

**#10. DISCUSSION OF FENCE HEIGHTS**

Chairman Wiener stated he recalled when fence heights were changed from 6 to 6 ½ feet.

Member Murphy stated that a lot of house fences are not enforced and are higher than 6 ½ feet.

Member Searcy stated that she and Member Bucci would work on gathering information on this subject.

Member Bucci stated wood planks come in lengths of 6 & 8 feet. She suggested fence heights be raised to 8 feet so that materials would not be wasted and that it would be in conjunction with building green.

Chairman Wiener took a poll and asked each member to state what he or she would like the maximum fence heights to be, they answered:

Member Bucci – maximum 7-8 feet

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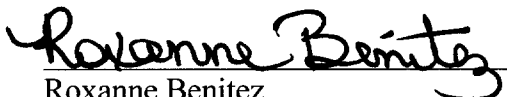
Member Searcy – no more than 8 feet  
Member Murphy – maximum 8 feet  
Member Tidwell – no more than 7-8 feet  
Member Abrams – maximum 8 feet  
Member Opalka – 6 ½ feet  
Chairman Wiener – 6 ½ feet

**ITEM WAS TABLED**

**#11. ADJOURN**

Member Tidwell moved, Member Searcy seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

  
Roxanne Benitez  
Planning and Zoning Secretary