

**CITY OF FIRCREST PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

December 6, 2016
6:00 PM

Fircrest City Hall
115 Ramsdell Street

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Karen Patjens called the regular meeting of the Fircrest Planning Commission to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Kathy L. McVay, Jerry Foss, Karen Patjens, and Arne Michaelsen were present. Absent: None. Excused: Kenneth Halgren. Staff present: Planning and Building Administrator Angelie Stahlnecker and Principal Planner Jeff Boers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the meeting of November 1, 2016 were presented for approval.

Moved by Foss and seconded by Michaelsen to approve the minutes. Ayes: Kathy L. McVay, Jerry Foss, Karen Patjens, and Arne Michaelsen. Noes: None. Absent: None. Excused: Kenneth Halgren. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

An email from Scott Brannon was presented to the Planning Commission.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Case 16-11 Sign Code

Principal Planner Jeff Boers identified items from the November 1st meeting for further discussion.

Discussion included:

- The proposed draft would require businesses that change uses or make substantial changes to replace nonconforming signs
- The Planning Commission directed staff to research a seven year amortization for nonconforming signs
- Consideration of different areas of the City might need to be handled differently with nonconformance
- The proposed draft would allow illumination of light background signs (currently prohibited), but at a smaller scale than signs with darker backgrounds.

- The proposed draft would continue to allow digital signs, but would prohibit electronic message signs
- The proposed draft would lower the height limits, require substantial framing, and regulate based on street frontage and background color
- The Planning Commission requested more information and a better definition of portable feather signs versus permanent feather signs
- The Planning Commission directed staff to research prohibiting sandwich board signs along the street and/or require design guidelines
- Desire to ensure all parts of the Municipal Code are consistent.
- The section on temporary signs is most affected by the Supreme Court's decision in *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* (2015)
- Current standards for real estate, political, grand opening, and other temporary signs will be combined in new Temporary Sign section
- The proposed draft would restrict temporary signs from sidewalks and traffic islands
- Staff suggested a lower percentage of façade for determining allowed size of a wall sign from the November 1st draft. Draft would still allow greater flexibility than current code
- The Planning Commission directed staff to look at a slightly higher percentage
- Concern over temporary signs being used "permanently"
- Consideration of whether a time limit could be placed on temporary signs
- Consideration of how the inclusion of political signs in temporary signs affects time-limits

NEW BUSINESS

- Due to the need for February public hearings, the Planning Commission supported staff's suggestion to request City Council cancel the joint study session.

Moved by Foss and seconded by Michaelsen to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Ayes: Kathy L. McVay, Jerry Foss, Karen Patjens, and Arne Michaelsen. Noes: None. Absent: None. Excused: Kenneth Halgren. Motion carried.



Karen Patjens, Planning Commission Chair



Angelie Stahlnecker, Planning/Building