

CITY OF DOVER

SIGN COMMITTEE – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 2nd Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 288 Central Avenue
Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 16, 2014
Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Green (Chair), Tom Clark, Lee Skinner, Dan Barufaldi

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Bird (City Planner)

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Merullo, J. Merullo, Mike Routhier

The meeting was convened by Green at 6:05 AM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Skinner motioned to approve the minutes of July 31, 2014, Barufaldi seconded. Vote: Unanimous

2. Citizens Forum:

L. Merullo: I have questions about LED wording. I want Dover to be aesthetically correct. LED signs are not desired. The Planning Board voted down an LED proposal 7 years ago. You can't have enforcement out at all hours. I have a list of questions I will leave. I am concerned with LED signs that exist and the grandfathered rights that go on forever. Zoning districts change over time. It is impossible to regulate lights and light pollution. These signs are distracting to drivers. Allowing 25 percent of the sign to be electronic is too large if you have a 40 square foot sign. How many of these signs are going to be allowed?

Barufaldi asked if he could speak.

Clark moved to suspend the rules to allow Barufaldi to speak during Citizen's Forum, Skinner seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Barufaldi: LED is a source of light. You might be referring to electronic message centers.

Merullo: Yes that is what I mean.

Green indicated that the 5 minute had been reached.

Mike Routhier of 3 Milk Street: I live across from a warehouse that has a dumpster that has had a problem with illegal dumping. The owner spray painted a sign on the side of the building that is not attractive. It warns people not to dump there. Not sure if you are the right group to address this.

Green: We are only tasked with reviewing the sign ordinance. It sounds like an enforcement issue.

Routhier: I have been in touch with Tim Corwin. I would ask that you consider a change to the ordinance that makes spray painted signs illegal.

3. Old Business

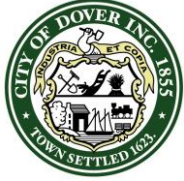
a. Sign Tables & Diagrams

Clark: The Career Technical Center at the high school has a teacher that can redo the sign diagrams with new technology to make them more legible. However they couldn't start until school was back in session.

Green: Sooner the better to wrap up this work.

Skinner: I did check and the mill motif doesn't need any of the diagrams.

b. Wrap Up Sign illumination



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Clark: This will have to wait because Roy is not here. I need to get the material from him to be able to wrap this up.

Green distributed copies of the EMC wording from a couple of months ago.

Green: I agree that 25% could be excessive.

Clark: We discussed that 10% is too small if the sign size is small. We talked about a sliding scale.

Skinner: I have been having second thoughts on EMC's. Maybe we can allow them for a trial period but that is not going to work. I want to support businesses but there has not been a large number of businesses requesting them. It is tough to be able to go back once you open the door.

Barufaldi: I oppose going backwards. We have put a lot of time in on this.

Clark moved to table this topic and put it on the next agenda, Barufaldi seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

4. WRAP UP

Bird has incorporated the mill motif amendments into the master copy but still needs to have Green review the other sections to make sure the changes are accurate.

5. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

Green: The letter submitted tonight will be distributed.

7. MEMBER COMMENTS:

Green distributed copies of the mission statement as a reminder.

8. NEXT MEETING

Green: Next meeting will be at the call of the chair after consulting with Roy and staff. We want to make sure Roy can attend.

Clark: I agree that is important and we need to review the final document.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Skinner motioned to adjourn at 6:40 PM. Barufaldi seconded. Vote: Unanimous