



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION
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ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 30, 2008 – 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Advisory Planning Commission – Robert Day, Lawrence Bleau, James McFadden, Heidi Jones-Huffman, John Krouse and Chuck Smolka; Planning Staff – Terry Schum, Elisa Vitale, and Tershia Williams; Attorney – Suellen Ferguson and Deanna Adams

I. Call to Order: Robert Day called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

At 7:20 p.m. Lawrence Bleau moved to go into executive session to meet with counsel to discuss legal matters. John Krouse seconded. Motion carried unanimously. At 7:30 pm, the Advisory Planning Commission reconvened in regular session.

II. Approval of Minutes: Lawrence Bleau moved to accept the minutes of October 2, 2008. Heidi Jones-Huffman seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0.

III. Amendments to Agenda: There were no Amendments to the Agenda.

IV. Public Remarks on Non-Agenda Items: There were no Public Remarks on Non-Agenda Items.

V. Public Hearing – Fence Ordinance (Reconsideration of decision)

CEO-2008-03: Variance to construct a six foot (6') fence

Applicant: Anabel Ramos

Location: 9325 Rhode Island Avenue

John Krouse moved to reconsider the decision for fence variance application CEO-2008-03 because based on the Advisory Planning Commissions review, it was concluded that the applicant did not require a variance. Lawrence Bleau seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

Lawrence Bleau moved to withdraw the variance request for a fence at 9325 Rhode Island Avenue for the following reasons: the fence was pre-existing; it was not constructed in the front yard; and the replacement fence is the same material as the existing fence. Therefore, a variance is not required. Heidi Jones-Huffman seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0. The application fee will be refunded to the applicant.

VI. Update on Development Activity: Terry Schum reported on the following:

- 1) The Preliminary Plan of Subdivision for Varsity at College Park, a proposed 914-bed student housing project, which includes 22,000 square feet of retail, will be heard before the City Council at their November 5 worksession. The Detailed Site Plan has been filed and will be heard before the City Council at their November 18 worksession.

- 2) East Campus – City Council had their first worksession with East Campus two weeks ago, but they have not taken a position yet. Because of the market, East Campus will be making some changes to their plans. As of this date, no final recommendations have been submitted.
- 3) City Hall Redevelopment – There was an RFP soliciting hotel developers/operators for the City Hall site. The City Council reviewed seven responses and as of Tuesday night’s worksession, had selected two proposals for further review.
- 4) University View – Plans are being prepared for the next phase of the University View student housing village, which involves demolishing Koon’s Ford Quick Lube and rebuilding the site to include a parking garage and two buildings with additional student housing and retail.
- 5) Purple Line – The Purple Line Alternatives Analysis Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available in the planning office if anyone would like to review it. Two public hearings have been scheduled in Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties.

VII. Other Business:

Chuck Smolka suggest meeting with the Mayor and Council to discuss the Advisory Planning Commissions role and responsibilities with regard to assisting the Mayor and Council with their efforts in the council process. Lawrence Bleau volunteered to draft a letter expressing the concerns of the commission and to request a meeting with the Mayor and Council sometime in the near future. There was no objection from commissioners to proceeding with the matter.

VIII. Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Tershia Williams