

Planning & Zoning Commission
Public Hearing
Text Amendment to the Sign Ordinance
July 11th, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Gauger called the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting for the Village of Fox Lake to order at 7:55pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Present
Commissioner David Schultz
Commissioner Stephanie Vermillion
Commissioner Niki Warden
Commissioner Tim Foster
Commissioner Debra Vander Weit
Commissioner Peter Fenneman
Chairman David Gauger
Staff Present
Community Development Director Donavon Day

III. PUBLIC HEARING

The petition submitted by the Village of Fox Lake requesting a Text Change to the Sign Ordinance.

Director Donavon Day presented the recommendations the Commission agreed was appropriate to amend from the May 9th, 2018 Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting.

Director Day explained the variance process that is available for signage.

IV. QUESTIONS BY THE COMMISSION

V. COMMISSION COMMENTS

The Commission Board stressed the importance for residents and business owners of Fox Lake to attend meetings and /or reference the Village of Fox Lake website to review the meeting minutes and become familiar with the ordinances.

Commissioner Warden nominated the idea to add text in the ordinance that states the option of being able to apply for a variance.

Director Day recounted his conversation with Mayor Donny Schmit, indicating that the sign ordinance is a working document and understands there could be changes made. For this reason, the variance process is in place to help businesses in the meantime.

Director Day provided positive information on the Permitted - Temporary Sign ordinance.

Director Day recommended adding kiosks throughout town to use as tool for businesses and is working with the Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Schultz suggested finding a better way to work more closely with the local business owners.

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VI. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Resident and business owner of Sign Appeal, Jim Busch presented his concern and disagreement with the sign ordinance. Mr. Busch provided a packet with suggested issues and changes to the sign codes and informed the Commission Board that the items highlighted in yellow along with the notes he added in red, were the items he would like to be addressed.

Resident and business owner, Major Hill stated he acknowledges and supports the efforts of the Commission and Board to improve the image of Fox Lake but strongly suggested the Commission and Board to reevaluate the ordinance with the mentioned concerns from his letter (attached) in mind. Mr. Hill also provided a packet for the Commission Board regarding Front/Side/Back sign restrictions.

Business owner, Don Maggioncalda stated he is aware the sign ordinance wasn't properly enforced in the past but detailed the difficulty of having a business on the lake with limited sign options.

Director Day acknowledged Mr. Maggioncalda's concern of being a business on the lake and agreed that there is a need for a certain balance.

Business owner of US Fox Lake Liquor & Tobacco, Kirti Patel spoke of his concern with the defined sign ordinance, particularly with not being able to have a sign on side of the building.

Chairman Gauger encouraged Mr. Patel to speak with Director Day to obtain a variance for having a side wall sign.

Director Day confirmed he would be meeting with Mr. Patel the following day with the variance form.

Steve Meier, President of Meier's Outdoor World, voiced his disagreement of the sign ordinance due to Fox Lake not being a place to attract new businesses and stated he was considering running for Mayor.

Director Day reported that there has been twelve (12) million dollars in investment from January - March with new businesses coming into town, with a projected sixteen (16) million over the next 6 months.

VII. MOTION

Commissioner Fenneman made a motion to approve the five (5) amendments to the Sign Ordinance.

Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Ayes: Commissioner Schultz, Commissioner Vermillion, Commissioner Warden, Commissioner Foster, Commissioner Vander Weit, Commissioner Fenneman, Chairman Gauger

Nays:

Motion approved.

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VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman David Gauger closed the hearing at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brigitte Weber
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Administrative Assistant

Copies of the ordinance discussed is available for review at the Village Hall or on our web site at www.foxlake.org

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