

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7PM by 2024 Chair Charles Faulkner

ROLL CALL: Alex Tweedie, Charles Faulkner, Chris Louten, Terry Tumolo, Eric Pfeiffer and Karen Vitelli, and Frank Muller

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Solicitor Rebecca Geiser, Engineer David Leh, Planner Naomi Crimm and Manager Tamara Twardowski

MOTION to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2024 meeting by Tweedie with a second by Tumolo

MOTION carries 7-0

REORGANIZATION

MOTION to appoint Charles Faulkner as Chair by Tumolo with a second by Tweedie

MOTION carries 7-0

MOTION to appoint Alex Tweedie as Vice Chair by Tumolo with a second by Pfeiffer

MOTION carries 7-0

CPVRPC: No report

New Business – Sign Ordinance discussion

Ms. Twardowski explained that over 50% of all variance requests are for signage. The sign allowances in the shopping center is minimal, and Kimberton Whole Foods, Redners, Pep Boys, Chase, 7 Brews, Worthwhile Wear, Wendy's and McDonald's all have variances. Additionally the ordinance allows for only 1 or 2 freestanding signs for the shopping center so there are multiple variances for those as well. One is likely too restrictive and opens up an avenue for variance approval; however, not everyplace can have a freestanding sign. Discussion ensued around multiple aspects of the ordinance including, how do we write the ordinance to be fair but also not have too many freestanding signs? It may be better to approach to shopping center about having a larger shopping center with more tenant spaces. A better way of handling the SC zoning district may be to allow for a percentage of wall area for wall signs. The commission looks at some of the current signage sizes and whether or not it seemed excessive.

There was some discussion on political signage, electronic signage, and the MSD district. There was discussion on whether or not the Borough really wants electronic. It was discussed that you can limit the movement of the signs, the lighting, brightness, colors, etc., along with the locations they are allowed. There was also discussion on whether we allow and/or want to allow illuminated in all zoning districts or might we want to limit lighted signs (or hours) on Main Street and also whether we want the MSD district signage to be in the MSD section or in the sign section. The consensus that it should be in with the sign ordinance, but we may want to consider adding aesthetic standards to that district.

Planner Crimm, will work on updated the revised ordinance with some recommended standards for the SC district and the electronic signage.

Meeting Adjourned 8:15PM