

**CITY OF TIGARD
PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2010**

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The meeting was held in the Tigard Civic Center, Town Hall, at 13125 SW Hall Blvd.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Anderson, Fishel, Gaschke, Hasman, Muldoon, Vermilyea, and Walsh.
Alternate Commissioners Schmidt & Shavey

Absent: Commissioner Doherty, Commissioner Caffall

Staff Present: Ron Bunch, Community Development Director; Dick Bewersdorff, Planning Manager; Hap Watkins, Assistant Planner; Michael McCarthy, Streets & Transportation Sr. Project Engineer; Doreen Laughlin, Sr. Administrative Specialist

3. COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Vermilyea gave a brief report on his involvement (as a Planning Commission representative) on the Tigard Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC) which meets the first Wednesday of every month. He said since he's attended the past 3 months or so, they've had overviews of the existing Transportation System Plan, existing finance options, getting an understanding of what the financing mechanisms are as well as understanding state, regional, and local transportation plans. He noted that this is a standing committee and he'll continue to report as things go on.

Commissioner Vermilyea also had attended the joint City of Lake Oswego/Planning Commission meeting. He gave a brief overview of that meeting. He noted there was not a lot of interaction at that meeting; it was more of a presentation. He said much of what they spoke about was not likely to be anything that Tigard would be dealing with for the next 15 years or so.

4. CONSIDER MEETING MINUTES

1-4-10 Meeting Minutes: President Walsh asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes – there being none, Walsh then declared the minutes approved as submitted.

5.1 PUBLIC HEARING – ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTERS DCA2009-00003

STAFF REPORT

Hap Watkins, Assistant Planner, briefly went over the staff report (staff reports are available one week before each scheduled meeting.)

QUESTIONS FROM COMMISSIONERS OF STAFF

I understand we currently have a school that's out of compliance with our existing sign regulation, is that correct? Yes, Tigard High School.

Are there other schools on arterials – schools that could be affected? Yes, Durham Elementary, Tigard High School, St. Anthony School, Mitch Charter School, Westgate Baptist School, and the Muslim Educational Trust School. These could potentially be affected.

So we're saying that we're going to allow a sign at a school site that is not less than 200' from a residential zone and it has to be on an arterial. Those are the two issues correct? Yes – 200 feet from an abutting residential use.

Explain to me what "abutting" is? For example, if the residential use is across the street – is that abutting? No.

So the residential use could be less than 200' from the sign but if it is across the street from the sign – this wouldn't prevent the sign from going up? No, it wouldn't. The orientation of the sign would be perpendicular to the arterial so it would have less effect on the use across the right-of-way.

Define an arterial. I take an arterial from our GIS overlay. It lists all the arterial streets. I don't have with me a definition of an arterial. It's the highest use street we have in Tigard.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY – IN FAVOR: Barbara Fronczak, 19135 SW 52nd St., Tualatin, OR 97062, Vice Chair of St Anthony's School Advisory Council. She stated that she was there in support of this amendment. It would be used as a means of communication. Enrollment is down due to economy. This is good to get messages out to the residents of

Tigard about the school and its benefits, and improve communication within the parent community to inform them of events and activities going on at the school.

There were no questions of Ms. Fronczak.

David Casias – 12199 SW Hollow Lane, Tigard, OR 97223 stated his support of the amendment of the code. He speaks as a parent of a St. Anthony student. He believes it would be a great asset to the school to be able to communicate to the school parents and the community in general.

There were no questions of Mr. Casias.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY – OPPOSED: None.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY CLOSED

DELIBERATIONS

One of the commissioners had a question for staff regarding a school that he said is not on an arterial at this time. The question was to whether, as the City grows, perhaps more streets would be considered arterials. Is there any control as to where signs are placed? Is there any flexibility to dictate where a sign can go on a given piece of property? For example, the Fowler property – suppose the sign goes on the corner and shines in across the street to the residences that are right there. Any control over that? *Nothing other than the 200 foot set-back for residential use. The schools that I visited (Beaverton, Aloha, and Lake Oswego) generally put these type boards central to the building because it's right there – everyone knows what the sign's for. None of them strayed from that. They were all basically central to the building - the midline of the building. The way it's written right now – it has to be oriented to the arterial street. It would be perpendicular to that street – shining both ways. That's one limitation from across the right-of-way.*

Another question for staff: When you say school... would that include any place that has, say, just kindergartners? *No. Preschools are identified in our land use code as "institutional daycare." To be qualified as a school, you have to teach grades 1-12.*

There were no further questions or deliberations and the following motion was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Muldoon.

MOTION:

"I move that we forward a recommendation of approval to the City Council to amend DCA 2009-00006 to allow electronic signs as stated in the staff report."

The motion CARRIED on a recorded vote, the Commission voted as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Fishel, Commissioner Gaschke, Commissioner Hasman, Commissioner Muldoon, Commissioner Vermilyea, and Commissioner Walsh (7)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTAINERS: None (0)

ABSENT: Commissioner Doherty, Commissioner Caffall (2)

6. WORK SHOP – BRIEFING ON HWY 99/HALL/GREENBURG

Mike McCarthy, Streets & Transportation Sr. Project Engineer, gave an informal “gather ‘round the plans” type of briefing. He gave a general “5000 foot level” overview of the various projects. Some of these projects would include bus pull-outs, street trees, etc. He noted that much of the construction would be done during the nighttime so as to have the least impact on traffic. The commissioners voiced some concerns and some enthusiasm for the various ideas. McCarthy noted that the City would go to great lengths to ensure extensive public information would be given. Among other things, the City will use the City website, Facebook, & Twitter, to get the word out – to let people know when various activities will be happening. McCarthy will provide a miniature version of the plans for the record (Exhibit A). The following is a basic time-line (given after the meeting).

February: Design Completion
 March: Bidding
 April: Contract Documents and Paperwork
 May: Construction Start
 Spring 2011: Construction Completion

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Vermilyea noted that at the last meeting there was a conversation with staff about providing the Planning Commission with a work plan based on the priorities that the Planning Commission had set for the last few years. His recollection is that Ron Bunch said that it would be between 12 – 15 pages and he wondered where it is, because now it’s February. If they’re going to plan for the year, the year is moving on. He feels they’ve let their priorities slide for a couple of years now since they’ve finished the Comp Plan process. He’d like to focus on what they said they wanted to be working on. In addition, the consensus was that they would prefer it not be that long. They would like a one page bullet point list for 2010. They would like this to be put on the calendar for March 1st. They would like to go through the calendar and work on priorities on March 1st.

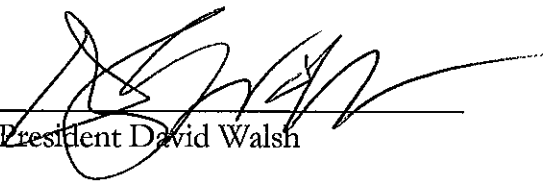
Walsh added that he’d forgotten to mention that the Electronic Message Center amendment DCA2009-00006 would be going to Council on February 23rd.

8. ADJOURNMENT

President Walsh adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.



Doreen Laughlin, Planning Commission Secretary



ATTEST: President David Walsh