



Office of Planning & Codes

Wiscasset Ordinance Review Committee Meeting Notes November 8, 2010

Members Present: Karl Olson, Pat Barnes, Doc Schilke, Jackie Lowell, Larry Lomison, Jeffrey Hinderliter (Town Planner), Bill Phinney (registered voter).

1. Meeting Opens at 5:00 PM.
2. Agenda items discussed: Sign Ordinance (10/12/2010 Draft 1).
3. October 25, 2010 meeting notes approved
4. Signs. Jeffrey describes where the ORC left off. He recommends they resume their review from Section 7. The ORC discuss the following.
 - What should we do with digital signs? Allow in certain districts- they may migrate to other areas. What about for economic development purposes- shouldn't we allow regulated digital signs to allow businesses to have more options? It might be more business friendly to allow them with some regulations regarding their appearance, what it shows and how it changes. What does 'business friendly' mean? After further discussion the ORC decide to prohibit digital signs
 - 7.4 B: add 'hooded and shielded' to iii.
 - There will be modified sign standards within the historic district.
 - 7.4 C: delete i in its entirety.
 - 7.5: delete 'and shall not...sidewalks.'
 - 7.6: what does this mean by street corner? Is this standard necessary? Will sign height provide the appropriate restrictions without this standard? Discuss later.
 - 7.7: ORC discuss setback requirements. What should the distance be and where should the setback be measured from? Should it be from the edge of the travelled way? There may be a state statute that applies to this- check to see 23 MRSA 1941 is still valid. First part of standard- does it conflict with other standards in the ordinance? Discuss later
 - 7.9: ORC discuss frontage requirements and its limitation on the number of freestanding signs per lot. ORC decide to delete 'on lots with less...separated by 200 feet.'
 - 8.3 ii: should more than 2 business directional sign be allowed in town? Maybe limit the number in the downtown historic district
 - 8.4 v: at end of sentence, add 'after written notification.'
 - 9: ORC discuss temporary signs and decide on a 30 day, 8 sq. ft. limit.
 - ORC discuss signs on vehicles and if we should keep what was recommended at a previous meeting.
 - 10 & 11: signs within the Route 1 Corridor and Signs within the Downtown Historic District will be discussed at the next meeting.

- 12: Jeffrey explains the purpose behind common signage. ORC discuss this, in particular the allowable % increase in sign area. The ORC decide to discuss this later upon knowing what the max sign sq. ft. per lot will be.
- 14: delete
- 15: ORC will discuss maximum sign size at the next meeting.
- 16: Jackie has recommended language for amending the Maintenance and Removal section. The ORC reviews and approves the changes
- 17.3: Jackie has adjustments to this standard. ORC reviews and approves the changes.
- **Recommendations:** ORC will reconsider outstanding items at their next meeting. The items include:
 1. Definition of sign area and wall sign
 2. Appeals section
 3. Decorative Banners and Flags
 4. Sign setbacks
 5. Sign sizes
 6. Common sign %
 7. New sections- signs within the Route 1 corridor and the downtown historic district
 8. Downtown historic district description

5. Other Business. Bill Phinney requests that a schedule for the ordinances be created in preparation of a town vote. Bill believes the next town vote will be in January. Karl asks Jeffrey to work on the schedule. Bill discusses the vote on the Planning Department Budget. He says the vote will be on 7 December and absentee ballots are available. Also, it would be helpful to get support for the department in the newspapers. Karl hands out a letter he wrote for the newspapers.

6. Adjourn: 7:05 PM