

I. Call to order:

Present: Fiehrer, Wile, Moeller, Lewis, Bucheit, Hogg, Crooks, Nichols

II. Approval of Minutes:

Motion by wile, seconded by Bucheit to accept the meeting minutes from the December 2, 2015 Ordinance Review Committee meeting. Motion carried.

III. New Business:

A. Sign Ordinance

John Creech, a Community Development staff member explained the proposed sign ordinance changes (1) permanent signs shall only display the name, address, phone number, website address, hours of operation, or registered design trademarks of the business or legal use of the property where the sign is located; (2) up to 50% of any permanent wall sign face may be comprised of changeable copy.

Council Member Wile asked about businesses that had signs where more than 50% of changeable copy on it and how they would be affected. Mr. Creech had noted that any business that has a sign currently that would conflict with the revisions would be permitted. However, if the business updated their sign, they would have to comply with the ordinance.

IV. Old Business

A. Health Code Revisions

Tom Dierling spoke on the changes of the Health Code. 1735.22 and 1709.07 regarding Junk Motor vehicles was revised from the feedback received at the December 2, 2015 meeting. 1763.01 was revised per feedback as well regarding the definitions of "Noxious Weeds" and "Weeds".

Motion by Wile, seconded by Crooks to move forward with the Health Ordinance including the changes to 1735.22, 1779.07, 1763.01 as presented this morning and those changes previously presented.

YEAS: Fiehrer, Wile, Moeller, Lewis, Bucheit, Hogg, Crooks (7)
NAYS: (0)

V. Public Comments:

Karen Underwood, 1115 New London Road Hamilton. Ms. Underwood reached out to the City of Fairfield and noted that she spoke to the Director of Economic Development and he told her that the City of Fairfield does not determine content of signs. Ms. Underwood noted the City of Cincinnati's Ordinance regarding weeds.

Motion by Moeller, seconded by Fiehrer to accept documents and photos from Karen Underwood.

Joel Schmidt, 82 Williams Avenue, Hamilton. Mr. Schmidt's family donated the Fitton Center sign and he is concerned that moving forward if this was passed, the Fitton Center sign would not have been approved.



Jeff Pohlman, 736 High Street, Hamilton. Mr. Pohlman is concerned that restricting the sign content would inhibit the growth of new small businesses since they don't have the name recognition as the existing businesses do.

Ed Larkin, 110 N. Erie, Hamilton. Mr. Larkin suggested that City staff should reach out to those businesses specified.

Angie Gray, 571 New London Road, Hamilton. Ms. Gray represents Badin High School and she noted they appreciate the investment the City has done and that for all of the families that come through Hamilton, they notice the community as they drive to Badin.

Paul Kimble, 250 South Gerson, Hamilton. Mr. Kimble suggested that the weeds definition be clarified and made easier to understand. Mr. Kimble also noted that some vegetation that may be deemed as a noxious weed, if managed appropriately, assist the property owner with their property maintenance.

Richard Underwood, 11 Sunny Brooke Court, Hamilton. Mr. Underwood noted that one person's weeds may be considered another individual's wildflowers. Mr. Underwood echoed Mr. Kimble's concerns that if the vegetation is managed appropriately, the vegetation assists the property owner with erosion, etc.

VI. Next Meeting:

Next scheduled Ordinance Review Committee meeting will be on February 3, 2016 at 8:00am in Council Chambers. Subject to change.

VII. Adjournment:

Ordinance Review Committee adjourned at 9:29 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcos Nichols
Acting City Clerk

