

Zoning Ordinance Review Committee

Meeting Date: October 12, 2011

Attendees: Kathy Corson, Doug Eastman, Barb McEvoy, John Hauschildt, Sylvia von Aulock, Frank Ferraro, Mary Dupre, Pam Gjetum, Pete Richardson, Kristen Murphy, John Merkle, and Pete Cameron

Meeting Notes

1. Subcommittee progress: Kathy provided an update on Form Based Code subcommittee progress. The Committee is working on taking photos of Portsmouth Ave. Sylvia is coloring a map of Portsmouth Ave to highlight parcels that are either planning to re-develop or are vacant.
2. Signage in the ROW: Frank F. stated that there needed to be a review of the zoning ordinance to ensure it incorporates/references Town Ordinance 502. He suggested a statement in the beginning of the Zoning Ordinance section 5.7 that states "except as provided in Town Ordinance 502".
3. Signage and square foot allocation: Kristen stated there had been discussions about how to address sq foot allocation for when subdivision of a multi-tenant commercial building happens (John's wording suggestion). Fred stated that it is unclear if reader board signs are a part of the square foot allocation.
4. Discussion on signage in historic districts, for residential and non-residential districts: John H. discussed sections of the sign ordinance the ZBA has been challenged with interpreting. some confusion on districts vs. use. Syl reminded group that last year to clarify the situation by adding "zoning district" to the two tables.
5. Discussion of "discontinuance" of a property vs. "abandonment". It was noted there is no definition for abandonment.
6. Kathy Corson brought up the concern of density in the C1 district and that it has created extremely crowded proposals off of Columbus Ave (bowling alley and VFW projects). She also noted the different character and space use of single family units vs multi-family. No resolution of the issue was proposed.
7. Reminder to representatives of the various boards that zoning amendments are due for any changes requested for the March 2012 ballot.

Next meeting of ZORC will be on Wednesday, Oct 26th at 8:15.