FLORENCE COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2010
6:30PM
ROOM 803
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY-COUNTY COMPLEX
AGENDA

Review and Motion of Minutes:

Meeting of November 24, 2009

Meeting of December 22, 2009

Other Business:

PC#2009-39:
Text amendment request for Article V, Sections 30-205, 30-211 and 30-212 of the Florence County Code of Ordinances for Portable Signs

Director’s Report:

• Building Report
• Summary Plats
Review and Motion of Minutes

• Meeting of November 24, 2009
• Meeting of December 22, 2009
PC#2009-39

Portable Sign Policy Committee Report

A committee to review portable signs was formed by Planning Commission on December 22, 2009 to address the portable sign elements of the current county sign regulations. The committee was tasked with incorporating the information gathered in the preceding meetings and public input into an ordinance amendment that would address the concerns of the County Council and members of the community about portable signs.
PC#2009-39 Recommendations

Timeframe: Portable signs should be erected for no more than 30 days out of every quarter with at least 2 months between postings. Special events for non-profit and not-for-profit entities should be exempt from this requirement.

Spacing: Spacing between signs should be one per parcel; large parcels with multiple businesses a minimum distance of 100 feet must be maintained.

Size: Maintain maximum at 32 sq.ft.

Colors: The committee suggested having no restrictions on colors.
Setbacks: Retain current setbacks as defined in section 30-202 Table VIII for zoned areas and Section 30-111 for Unzoned areas.

Permitting: Provide a visible marker or sticker on the posted sign. Make permit fee annual with planned display intervals clearly outlined by the applicant on the permit. If possible make the sign company responsible for permitting, liable for signage and subject to fines. Determine if this is feasible.

Real Estate: Make it clear within the ordinance that real estate signs are allowed and are separate from portable signs or posters.
Highway Corridors

The committee discussed controlling signage in major highway corridors with suggestion that this proposal be deferred to a later date for more in depth study. Zoning overlay districts were discussed as a method to create uniform portable sign regulations along highway corridors that have different levels of zoning or increased need for uniformity. How do we best address them? Zoning Overlay district? Performance standards for primary highways? Other ideas?
Unzoned Areas
The current code has few restrictions on signs in the Unzoned areas. Should sign regulations be enacted in Unzoned districts or should these areas remain without further restrictions to portable signs? Should problem areas in the Unzoned districts be addressed in a zoning overlay district or performance standards for major highway corridors?
PC#2009-39 Action Items

Approval or disapproval by the Planning Commission of the committee recommendations on timeframe, spacing, size, colors, setbacks, permitting, and real estate signs.

Path forward on major highway corridors and Unzoned areas.
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