

Planning Commission

Hybrid (In-Person / Virtual) www.gaithersburgmd.gov/meetings City Hall 31 South Summit Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877

MINUTES Regular Session Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 7:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Session of the Planning Commission was called to order at 7:30 PM with Chair John Bauer presiding.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Bauer	Chair	Present	
Matthew Hopkins	Commissioner	Present	
Lloyd Kaufman	Commissioner	Present	
Philip Wessell	Commissioner	Present	
Danielle Winborne	Commissioner	Absent	

Staff present: Deputy City Attorney Johnson, Director of Planning & Code Administration Schlichting, Community Planning Manager Mann, Planner Copelan, Planner Forbes, Planner Mehfoud

2. SIGN PERMITS

A. SIGN-32356-2024: Sign Waiver for Chesapeake Urology Monument Sign at 808 West Diamond Avenue in the C-2 (General Commercial) Zone. MINOR WAIVER

Planner Forbes introduced the application and located the property. She noted that the applicant is requesting a minor waiver to permit monument sign letter heights less than seven (7) inches tall.

Ken Padgett, the applicant, presented the rendering of the proposed signage and provided justification for the approval of the minor waiver.

Chair Bauer had a question about the spacing of the text on the sign.

Mr. Padgett noted that the design of the text is part of Chesapeake Urology sign branding.

Commissioner Kaufman voiced concerns about the existing shrubbery on the north side of the sign.

Planner Forbes assured the Commission that part of the sign ordinance, landscaping is required and to be maintained.

Planner Forbes recommends that the Planning Commission, based on the exhibits submitted, applicant's testimony and the staff report findings and recommendations, grant a minor waiver for SIGN-32356-2024, allowing letter heights less than seven (7) inches tall, finding it in compliance with §24-213(a) of the City Code.

Motion was made that the Planning Commission, based on the exhibits submitted, applicant's

7. FROM STAFF

Community Planning Manager Mann announced a joint work session on February 26, 2024, and March 11, 2024 for the zoning ordinance update.

Announced the next regular meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for February 21, 2024

Director of Planning & Code Administration Schlichting informed the Commission that the Schematic Development Plan Lakeforest Mall was filed and reminded the Commission that rules restricting ex-parte communications now apply and any discussions outside of the public forum should be avoided.

A. Sponsorship of text amendment to repeal and replace Chapter 24, Zoning

Community Planning Manager Mann introduced the draft to the zoning ordinance that was released to the public on February 6, 2024.

Chair Bauer compliments the new zoning draft and applauds the appearance and format.

RESULT:	PASSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matthew Hopkins, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Lloyd Kaufman, Commissioner
FOR:	John Bauer, Matthew Hopkins, Lloyd Kaufman, Philip Wessell
ABSENT:	Danielle Winborne

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the session was adjourned at 8:11 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Susana Memari Administrative Technician III