

**BIRMINGHAM TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
April 14, 2009**

After declaring a quorum, Chairman Nick DiMarino called to order the regular April meeting of the Planning Commission at 7:31 p.m.in the Township Building. Present were Debbie Hineman, Mary Pat McCarthy, Scott Towler, Pete Davenport, Doug Marshall and Eric Hawkins, as well as the Chairman.

The minutes of the meeting of March 10, 2009 were approved (Hineman, McFadden).

Mr. Marshall reported that there had been no response from the RPOS regarding the proposed letter to the Board of Supervisors about the Township map. Mr. DiMarino directed the secretary to forward the letter to the Supervisors.

Having received no other suggestions for objectives for the year, Mr. DiMarino brought up three items suggested by Supervisor Al Bush.

- "Temporary" signs in the Historic and Commercial Districts
- Billboards
- Should we examine current deed restrictions to see if they are properly written and recorded?

Those present agreed that, since the ordinance does not cover billboards and temporary signs, the PC should discuss them with Fronefield Crawford, and that the PC should definitely explore the current deed restrictions. Mr. DiMarino asked that any other topics for discussion be emailed to him.

Mr. DiMarino announced that all PC members are included in the invitation to the open house tour at Edgewood on May 15 from 10 to noon. All present accepted the invitation. Others must tell Quina Nelling if they want to attend.

Public Comment: Mr. Jamie Ridge and Ms. Erin Smith, representing Suburban Realtors Alliance, distributed a letter proposing an amendment to the Township's ordinance regarding off-site directional signs. (The letter and amendment are attached herewith.) SRA finds onerous Birmingham's current practice of the Police Department charging \$50 for a maximum of ten days. During the Q & A period, it was clarified that the realtors need directional signs for their weekend open houses, do not want to pay a fee for them, and are willing to negotiate time limits for the signs. PC members noted that multiple signs can create an appearance of litter, create a safety hazard at intersections, and can be counter-productive if too numerous. Mr. Hawkins said he did not have a problem with eliminating or reducing the fee, but would prefer safety clarifications. Mr. DiMarino will consult Frone Crawford and discuss this at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m. (Hineman, Davenport).

Respectfully submitted,

Jacquie Roach  
PC Secretary

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