MINUTES
KITSAP COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Administration Building – Commissioners Chambers
June 3, 2014 6:00 P.M.

These minutes are intended to provide a summary of meeting decisions and, except for motions made, should not be relied upon for specific statements from individuals at the meeting. If the reader would like to hear specific discussion, they should visit Kitsap County’s Website at http://www.kitsapgov.com/dcd/pc/default.htm and listen to the audio file (to assist in locating information, time-stamps are provided below).

The Kitsap County Planning Commission met on the above-stated date at the Kitsap County Administration Building Commissioner’s Chambers, 619 Division Street, Port Orchard, WA.

Members present: Lou Foritano, Tom Nevins, Jim Svensson, Jim Sommerhauser, Linda Rowe, Erin Leedham, Karanne Gonzalez-Harless, Linda Paralez and Joe Phillips

Staff present: Darren Gurnee, David Greetham and Planning Commission Secretary Karen Ashcraft

6:00:18
A. Call Meeting to Order, Introductions

6:01:01
B. A motion is made by Commissioner Sommerhauser and seconded by Commissioner Svensson to adopt the Agenda.

The Vote:
Yes: 9
No: 0
The motion carries.

6:01:44
C. A motion is made by Commissioner Sommerhauser and seconded by Commissioner Leedham to approve the minutes for May 20, 2014 as submitted.

The Vote:
Yes: 9
No: 0
The motion carries.

6:03:19
David Greetham, Supervisor, Kitsap County Department of Community Development
An addendum to the Staff Report will be issued by Friday, June 6, 2014 with the Comp Plan Policies in relationship to the new Sign Code.

Commissioner Gonzalez-Harless gave an explanation of the need for staff to include the Comp Plan Policies analysis.
Commissioner Paralez stated the use of signs in LAMIRDs is inconsistent with the LAMIRDs’ design standards.

Commissioner Sommerhauser reminded staff that the Planning Commission would like a demonstration at one of the two recorded public hearings of how a candle-foot of light is measured.

Commissioner Svensson inquired if the revised staff report would include the recommendations to the Planning Commission from the staff.

6:12:48

D. Public Hearing: Kitsap County Sign Code (KCC 17.445), Introduction by Darren Gurnee, Planner, Planning & Environmental Programs, DCD

- Revised Sign Code will be included in Kitsap County Code Title 17
- Comp Plan Policies related to signage: nine Land Use Policies, one Rural Lands Policy, two Economic Development Goals that include three associated Policies, and one in Transportation Development.
- Public Presentations were made to multiple groups at various locations.
- Through the feedback and web site portal public comments are included in the current draft Kitsap County Sign Code.
- Added new Definitions i.e. legally established non-conforming signs, identified sign types by definitions and illustration and methods of measurement and electronic signs.

6:16:04

Chair Foritano: Open the Public Hearing

6:16:28

Ron Gillespie is a resident of Tracyton, Central Kitsap area. He has concern about electronic signs, enforcement, and political signs. (Submitted Letter dated 6/3/14)

6:22:09

Joyce Merkel is a resident of Old Town Silverdale. She owns commercial property in Silverdale and other areas of Kitsap County. She is concerned about the proposed Sign Code especially electronic signs, pole signs for shopping centers and A-frame signs on the edge of the sidewalks.

6:27:51

Henning Larsen recently moved to Manette from Ridgetop, Silverdale area. He is the Vice-Chair of the Kitsap County Democrats. He is concerned about the political signs and the 200' rule.

Discussion is held regarding the placement of campaign signs not in the Right-of-Way but on private property.

6:34:24

Johnny Walker is a resident of Kingston and a small business owner. He is representing the Kitsap Patriot Tea Party a non-partisan group. He has concerns that this new sign code will increase cost for
business owners and undermine the free market. He requests the Planning Commission reject this
new sign code and return it back to the staff of Community Development.

Discussion is held regarding the need for less government control.
Discussion is held regarding the review of other sign codes.
Discussion is held regarding safety issues of signs along roadways.
Discussion is held regarding individual community standards.

6:46:14

Randy Hanson is the owner of Hanson Sign Company that has been in business in Kitsap County since
1937. He is looking forward to a workable Sign Code for business and the community. He is looking
forward to a sign code that will give accurate information for his customers.

Discussion is held regarding sign clutter that includes A-boards, flag signs.
Discussion is held regarding the expense of electronic signs.

6:55:21

James Carpentier is from NW Sign Council and International Sign Association. He thanked staff for
undertaking the task of a new Sign Code. He is in support of the new Sign Code. He would like to have
pole signs be allowed at a decreased height and allow them where there is limited space. He would
like to see more creativity with monument signs.

Discussion is held regarding Electronic Signs.
Discussion is held regarding non-conforming Signs.

7:05:25

Teresa Osinski is the Executive Vice-President of the Home Builders Association. She thanked the staff
for their hard work on the draft code. The Home Builders Association is happy to be a member of the
Task Force committee. She is concerned about hindering the desire of businesses to do business in
Kitsap County. She suggested various additions or corrections to the draft sign code.

Discussion is held regarding concern of the Task Force committee and prohibition of signage and the
impact to community character.

Discussion is held regarding the Task Force committee members' perspective other than businesses,
i.e. private citizen, agri community members etc.

7:18:04

Gall Rase is a private property owner and is concerned that the new sign code applies to her property.
She has signs on her property stating “No Trespassing” and “Electric fencing.” She is a member of the
Friends of Newberry Hill Heritage Park Stewardship Group and would like to know if signs put in the
park are part of the new sign code regulations.

Darren Gurnee stated the new sign code does apply throughout unincorporated Kitsap County. On
Page 8, #10 of the Sign Code states that “No Trespassing” signs are exempt.

Darren Gurnee will give a statement regarding sign regulations at parks and schools.
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7:23:25

James Logan is a private property owner citizen living in Kitsap County. He is concerned about not having laws but having liberty for the people. Also, allowing businesses to do whatever they want to do with their signs. There are several areas that shouldn’t be a part of the new Sign Code: Agri signs, human signs and wall murals. He has concern about the violations section.

7:27:03

Chair Fortano continued the Public Hearing to June 16, 2014 at 5:30 P.M. at Poulsbo City Hall, 200 NE Moe Street, Poulsbo, Washington.

7:27:35

Chair Fortano: For the Good of the Order
Commissioner Paralez gave thanks to Commissioner Gonzalez-Harless for the new wall clock.

7:28:30

A motion is made by Commissioner Paralez and seconded by Commissioner Sommerhauser to adjourn the meeting.

The Vote:
Unanimous
The motion carries.

Time of Adjournment: 7:28:31

Exhibits:
A. 2014 Sign Code Update Title 17 Kitsap County Code May 27, 2014
B. Letter from Ron L. Gillespie dated June 3, 2014
C. Letter from Joyce Merkel dated June 3, 2014
D. Letter from Johnny Walker dated June 3, 2014

MINUTES approved this __________ day of __________, 2014.

Lou Fortano, Planning Commission Chair

Karen Ashcraft, Planning Commission Secretary