

ACTION MINUTES

LAND USE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

October 20, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Forster, Supervisor, District II
Louis Boitano, Supervisor, District IV

Supervisor Boitano called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

AGENDA: Approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the September 15, 2011 meeting were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: Supervisor Forster inquired as to the status of the ordinance pertaining to the growing of medical marijuana. Aaron Brusatori, CDA, said the resolution of intention is scheduled for the November 8, 2011 Board of Supervisors meeting.

**ITEM 1. REVIEW OF TEMPORARY DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE DRAFT
ORDINANCE AND DIRECTION ON HOW TO PROCEED--Planning
Department**

(Present: Cara Agustin and Susan Grijalva, Planning Department; Aaron Brusatori, Community Development Agency; Bill Byrd and Will Byrd, Golden Chain Council; Mike Ginnelly, Jeff Holman Auto Center; Sandy Garcia, Jackson Creek Dental Group; and Susan Manning, Amador County Chamber Commerce, Tri-County Wildlife, APAL, and The Feed Barn.

Cara Agustin, Planning Department, reviewed the draft ordinance she prepared, based on the points discussed and as directed by the Committee at the August 18, 2011 meeting pertaining to temporary directional signs. She said any signage on the State highway would fall under the purview of the State and would require an outdoor advertising permit with fees totaling \$860.

Ms. Agustin added that the draft ordinance does not address electric signs or onsite advertising. Discussion at this meeting pertaining to those types of signs would be off agenda. The following people spoke off agenda:

Bill Byrd spoke regarding his electronic sign. He said he has been cited by Caltrans and will have to pay a fine if his sign is not approved by the County. Mr. Byrd suggested the County's ordinance be amended to allow for the illumination of signs during daytime hours. Mr. Byrd also said there has been new technology developed since the adoption of the ordinance that needs to be addressed.

Mike Ginnelly, Jeff Holman Auto Center, spoke off agenda but asked what type of signage is allowable for their business. Currently they are receiving calls asking if they are going out of

business. Jeff Holman Auto Center has onsite signage and is allowed one banner for not more than 90 days in a year. If they want to use balloons, they would need to check with the Airport.

Susan Manning, The Feed Barn, said they need to have a sign to advertise when they have kittens and dogs for adoption. They also need to have a permanent sign for Tri County Wildlife in order to notify people of its location.

Discussion regarding the draft ordinance and the list of BOS concerns from the 9/13/11 meeting took place and the following were topics discussed:

- Whether or not 12 months is too long for a sign permit to be valid.
- How the sign location of no more than ½ mile from a business was derived.
- Allowing a business in a City to put a sign up as long as it meets the requirements.
- The use of MUTCD letter sizing as a guideline, not a requirement.
- The necessity of the County to be able act to faster than 30 days to rectify the situation if a sign becomes a nuisance or safety hazard.
- Requiring signs to be located on private property unless an encroachment permit is obtained.
- The desire to keep permit fees as low as possible using \$100 as a target.
- Determining a definition for “times of economic need.” Using the unemployment rate in Amador County as a bench mark was suggested as a possibility. It was also suggested that Karen Glaze with the Mother Lode Job Training, Sonora Office, be contacted for some ideas.
- The need to meet certain requirements if the sign is to be located in the road right of way; i.e. breakaway signs.

Committee Action: The Committee directed the Planning Department to place the Resolution of Intention for temporary directional signage on the November 8, 2011 Board of Supervisors agenda and to reiterate to the Board at that time that this is just direction to start the process. The Committee further directed the Planning Department to place “Discussion as to whether the Board wants to authorize relief for business banners onsite until the sign ordinance is reviewed and modifications made” on the November 8, 2011 Board agenda. The Committee directed a workshop be scheduled for November 2, 2011 at 9 a.m. to review the entire sign ordinance and address the issues presented off agenda at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.