

**King & Queen County
Planning Commission Minutes
June 6, 2016**

The King & Queen County Planning Commission met on Monday, June 6, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the King & Queen County Courts and Administrations Building in the 2nd Floor Conference Room for their regular monthly meeting. *(Notice was posted on the front doors of the Courts and Administrative Building and on the courtroom doors that the meeting was moved upstairs due to the School Board holding a special called meeting the date and time of the Planning Commission meeting in the courtroom.)*

Planning Commission Members Present:

Sheila Morton
Milton Watkins
David Campbell
Robert Coleman

James Guess
Barbara Hudgins
Frank Massey

Also in Attendance:

Donna E. Sprouse, Assistant Zoning Administrator

Call to Order

In the absence of Chairman, Mr. Richardson, Vice-Chair, Milton Watkins called the meeting to order.

Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

Mr. Campbell took roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes
May 2, 2016**

After brief review of the minutes a motion was made by Mr. Massey to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Mrs. Hudgins.

Voting For: Watkins, Massey, Campbell, Hudgins, Guess, Morton
Voting Against: None
Abstain: Coleman

Citizens Comment Period

Mr. Watkins opened the floor for public comment period. Hearing no comments from the public, citizens comment period was closed.

Old Business

None

New Business

Economic Development *(Discussion Session)*

Mrs. Sprouse discussed concerns with the county's current sign ordinance based on the public comments from businesses within the county over the past 6 months. While staff has looked over the current ordinance, it has also come to their attention that our ordinance is quite restrictive regarding signage space and the number of permitted signs. Mrs. Sprouse stated that the current sign ordinance would not allow for the wall signage that is needed for large retail chains such as Home Depot, Lowes, Kroger, etc. During this time, she handed out photos of examples of businesses and signage that most businesses may use to draw attention to their establishment or items they may have to offer for sale. Sale signs, banners, feather flags, menu board, etc. were a few of the many signs discussed.

Mrs. Sprouse also noted that the current ordinance only allows items for sale or on display to be placed 75 feet from the edge of pavement. She noted that most car dealerships have vehicles closer than 75 feet to the road in many surrounding localities, among other items such as sheds, manufactured homes, golf carts, lawn mowers, etc. Mrs. Sprouse handed out photos of examples of local businesses taken from Google Earth of businesses that have items for sale or on display closer than 75' to the road.

Mrs. Sprouse stated that the reason this is being discussed is because over the past year the County as a whole has shown great interest in being business friendly and promoting economic development. However, the business people of the county have expressed concerns and obstacles in which they face regarding our ordinances. Mrs. Sprouse asked the Commission to take note of their surroundings over the next 1-2 months and really think about what they envision for King & Queen County. She asked that they consider signage numbers and sizes, as well as the display items that are placed out in front of a business offered for sale. *(Copies of such photos are provided in the Planning Commission packet file for June 2, 2016 PC meeting).*

Staff's Comments

Mrs. Sprouse stated that as of now, she does not have an application that is ready to be reviewed by the Commission at this time. She also noted that she will be out of town during the next meeting and it is a possibility that the Commission may not meet in July, provided that an application is not received in the next week.

Commissioner's Comments

Mr. Massey stated that he had read 4 text books, took 10 tests on planning related items and has now become a Certified Planning Commissioner.

Mrs. Hudgins congratulated Mr. Massey on receiving certification and wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July.

Mr. Watkins thanked everyone for attending and noted that the next meeting will be July 5, 2016 at 6 p.m. unless directed otherwise.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Coleman to adjourn the meeting. All those present ratified the motion by saying "Aye". The meeting was adjourned.

Milton Watkins, Vice-Chairman