

**Montpelier Planning Commission Meeting  
February 10, 2014**

*Approved March 10, 2014*

**Present:** Jesse Moorman, Kim Cheney, Eileen Simpson, Jon Anderson, John Bloch, Alan Goldman, Tina Ruth, Jessie Baker – Assistant City Manager.

**Call to order by the Chair:** The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Kim Cheney.

**Comments from the Chair:** Kim can't make the meeting scheduled for February 24.

**Report on hiring a drafting consultant:** There are two applicants who will be interviewed on Thursday afternoon by Jessie and Bill Fraser. Jessie has the applications electronically if commission members would like to weigh in on them.

**Discussion for Design Review Article 305 – Jesse Moorman:** Jesse put together some regulations and the Master Plan references against Article 305. The plan references design review guidelines, when the DRC gets there, they might be able to tell more about this. Jay White from the DRC stepped to the table and told the commission that they are something the DRC uses to help determine their reviews.

A motion was made that the design review approach be that design review only apply to property that are viewable by the travelling public. Alan seconded. Jon Anderson mentioned a case where a building was erected that was seen by the neighbors but not the travelling public since it was in the back.

Jon amended the motion to state viewable from a public space and not apply to small changes or large changes that are not visible to neighbors. Eileen seconded the amendment. After discussion, it was determined that this motion only apply to the historic district. Dina mentioned that it's a legislative issue regarding the historic district and that they be subject to design review. Alan wanted to have the amendment read "adjoining neighbor".

The amended motion passed 5-2, with Jesse and Alan opposing.

Eileen made a motion that design review apply to portions of the city visible to the travelling public. This was tabled until a review of the standards be done. Jesse will gather than information to bring for the discussion.

**Discussion with members of the Montpelier Design Review Committee:** Jay White, Jamie Duggan, and Dina Bookmyer-Baker – Assistant Zoning Administrator were present.

Jesse had suggested exempted painting and staining or having a pre-approved color palette. Jay thought that it shouldn't be exempted since the discussion might help applicants choose a better color scheme. Eileen suggested a "pass" from design review if the applicant choose from the pre-approved color palette to streamline the process for the homeowner. Jon mentioned that if the DRC approves the color, then they don't need to go to the DRB unless there's a disagreement. Jesse

made a motion that design review will not apply to painting residential structures no stripes, no polka dots, or extreme colors. Jon seconded. The motion passed with 2 dissenting votes.

Jon made a motion that all other design review issues not involving site plan review or conditional use or variance review and a positive review from the DRC is required that there be an administrative process. Jesse seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Jon made a motion that residential landscaping containing planting be placed in the same category as the painting. Jesse seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

**Other business:** The scheduled meeting for February 24 is during school break and Kim can't make the meeting. The general consensus was to cancel the meeting.

The commission would welcome input from the DRC members and Dina as they go through the design review process.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Furry  
Recording Secretary