



issues. B. Blatter explained the proposed sign meets code. The original application was distributed so that the exact color samples could be reviewed. The property is not in the historic district. The proposed sign will be in addition to the existing sign on the property.

C. Miller moved to approve the application as submitted. J. Gianniny gave the second. The motion passed.

**Old Business:**

**\* Review of landscape plans for Lylburn Downing Middle School and Community Center**

Randy Jones, the lead architect, and Ben McMillan, the civil engineer, presented the updated landscape plans for Lylburn Downing Middle School and the Community Center. In discussion, J. Dunbar and C. Miller voiced concern with the lack of color during winter months. V. Garrett will forward the concern to B. Besal.

C. Miller moved to approve the landscape plans for Lylburn Downing Middle School and the Community Center as presented. C. Smith gave the second. The motion passed.

**\* Discussion concerning possible changes to the downtown sign regulations**

J. Dunbar updated Planning Commissioners on the discussion held at the last ARB meeting. She indicated ARB members were positive about most of the proposed changes; however, voiced concern with the use of illuminated signage.

B. Blatter relayed issues of ARB concern which included: minimum clear width of sidewalks and ADA requirements, how the signs should be measured, whether 8 sq. ft. of sign face is too much, should the temporary signs require ARB approval or should the approval be administrative, height and size of flags, and safety issues with flat sandwich boards.

Sammy Moore, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Planning Commission. He asked that the regulations be explicit about the specifics of what a merchant can have so that ARB approval won't be needed. He agreed flat signs should be affixed for safety.

Planning Commissioners voiced concern with a proliferation of signage, ADA requirements, who will "police," and liability issues. All agreed 48" of sidewalk clearance is a must and the issue must be evaluated after 1 year. It was noted that the Chamber of Commerce will be handling enforcement.

Discussion was held on size of temporary sandwich boards and how the signs should be measured. It was noted 8 sq. ft. of sign face seems excessive and "sign face" should be defined. Complaints should be monitored for easy review at the end of the year trial period.

T. Sanders moved to have the proposed changes put into ordinance form for review. C. Miller gave the second. The motion passed.

**Staff Report:**

Housing, Government, and Economic Development are the last three chapters to update in the Comprehensive Plan. Work has not begun on the remaining chapters.

B. Blatter has been working with W and L on a water quality grant. Work is continuing on negotiating courthouse square. The updated Planned Unit Development article is scheduled for Public Hearing on February 5, 2009 in front of City Council.

With the courthouse due to open in two weeks, work on signage has begun. A sign designer has not been engaged.

**Approval of Minutes:**

C. Miller moved to approve the January 8, 2009 minutes as amended by J. Dunbar. J. Gianniny gave the second. The motion passed.

**Adjourn:** J. Dunbar adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.