



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION
4500 KNOX ROAD COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND 20740
TELEPHONE: (240) 487-3538 • FACSIMILE: (301) 887-0558

ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

Approved Minutes of Meeting

August 18, 2016 – 7:30 P.M.

City Hall – Council Chambers

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Lawrence Bleau	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
James McFadden	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Rose Greene Colby	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Christopher Gill, Chair	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Kate Kennedy, Vice Chair	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
John Rigg	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>

Also Present: Planning Staff – Miriam Bader and Theresheia Williams; Attorney: Suellen Ferguson and Susan Cook

I. Call to Order: Christopher Gill called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes:

Kate Kennedy moved to adopt the minutes of August 4, 2016. Lawrence Bleau seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.

III. Amendments to Agenda There were no Amendments to the Agenda.

IV. Public Remarks on Non-Agenda Items: There were no Public Remarks on Non-Agenda Items.

V. Discussion of Fence Ordinance with City Attorney

The City Fence Ordinance was enacted City-wide in October 2005 and approved through a County Council resolution in January 2006. The Ordinance has been amended twice in 2007 and 2014. The College Park Advisory Planning Commission held a listening session in December 2015 to obtain public comment on the City Fence Ordinance. On March 3, 2016, the Advisory Planning Commission sent a letter to the City Council with several recommendations for simplifying and streamlining the fence ordinance regulations.

Based on information from the letter and discussion with staff and commissioners, the Attorney, Suellen Ferguson, prepared a redline draft incorporating APC's recommendations and suggestions for review. This first draft was reviewed by Commissioners who had the following comments:

- **Fence** – It would be helpful to include the City and County restrictions on the fence ordinance. Include a drawing under the fence definition showing a corner lot with two 4’ sections. The fourth bullet under fence should read “Underground, invisible or animal restraint barriers.”
- **Garden Fence** - remove the height restriction, because the City does not regulate height in the rear and side yards. Include the County definition that “Fences shall be measured from the top of the fence to grade on the side of the fence where the grade is the lowest.”
- **Materials Incorporating Openness and Visibility** - remove Visibility.
- **Front yard Garden Fences** – include “area up to four feet by six feet.” Include pictures of garden fences.
- **Rear and side yard fences** - Add the definition back in for corner lot stating “Fences in rear and side yards, on corner and through lots shall be set back 25 feet from the lot line.”
- **Retaining Walls** - Suellen will work on wording for the sentence that states “variance shall be *approved* by the Advisory Planning Commission.”
- **Existing Fences** – remove visibility from the paragraph. Change “Replacement Fences to “Replacement Front Yard fences.”
- **Variance** – add item (f) back into the ordinance

VI. Update on Development Activity: There was no Update on Development Activity.

VII. Other Business: There was no Other Business.

VIII. Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Theresheia Williams