

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL FROM  
ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE  
STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL  
January 8, 2015

A regular meeting of the committee was convened at 9:30 a.m. on this date.

Members Present: Council Members Lisa Bender, Lisa Goodman, Andrew Johnson, Barbara Johnson, Kevin Reich, Abdi Warsame

In the absence of Chair Bender, Vice Chair Andrew Johnson assumed the Chair and called on staff Joe Giant to present the report for item #1, an appeal regarding 2000 Fremont Ave S.

1. 2000 Fremont Ave S ([15-00021](#)):

Considering an appeal filed by Joel Fischer of the decision of the Zoning Board of Adjustment denying the application for a variance to increase the maximum floor area ratio of a new home from 0.50 to 0.54 to allow for the construction of a single-family home with attached garage for the property located at 2000 Fremont Ave S.

Chair Bender and Council Member Barbara Johnson were noted as having arrived, and Council Member Bender assumed the Chair.

The public hearing was opened at 9:42 a.m. and the following persons gave testimony:

- a) Joel Fischer, 221 1st Ave NE

Seeing no further persons wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed at 9:58 a.m.

Council Member Goodman moved to approve the appeal and direct staff to draft Findings.

On voice vote, the appeal was granted and staff was directed to draft Findings.

Chair Bender read through Consent items 3-6.

3. Heritage Preservation Commission Appointments ([15-00023](#)):

Approving the following three-year appointments to the Heritage Preservation Commission:

- a) Dan Olson, Ward 6 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2017
- b) Linda Mack, Ward 7 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2017
- c) Constance Vork, Ward 5 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2017

Both Dan Olson and Constance Vork spoke briefly on their desire and appreciation of their appointments to the HPC.

4. Minneapolis Arts Commission Appointments ([15-00024](#)):

Approving the following two-year appointments to the Minneapolis Arts Commission:

- a) Abdifatah Farah, Ward 2 Mayoral Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2016
- b) Mara Miller, Ward 4 Mayoral Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2016
- c) Tina Burnside, Ward 8 Mayoral Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2016
- d) Jennifer Arave, Ward 1 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec 31, 2016

- e) Calvin Keasling, Ward 11 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2013-Dec. 31, 2016
- f) Becky Franklin, Ward 13 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2013-Dec. 31, 2016
- g) Melinda Ludwiczak, Ward 8 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2016
- h) Eric Bruce, Ward 12 Council Appointment, Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2016

5. Homeless Shelters Ordinances ([15-00025](#)):

Referring to staff the following ordinances amending Title 20 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Zoning Code, amending regulations regarding homeless shelters:

- a) Chapter 520 relating to Introductory Provisions
- b) Chapter 536 relating to Specific Development Standards
- c) Chapter 537 relating to Accessory Uses and Structures
- d) Chapter 541 relating to Off-Street Parking and Loading
- e) Chapter 546 relating to Residence Districts
- f) Chapter 547 relating to Office Residence Districts
- g) Chapter 548 relating to Commercial Districts
- h) Chapter 549 relating to Downtown Districts
- i) Chapter 550 relating to Industrial Districts
- j) Chapter 551 relating to Overlay Districts

6. Arts Commission Ordinance ([15-00026](#)):

Referring to staff an ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 36 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Administration: Arts Commission, declaring dedicated funding to public art in Minneapolis, defining related terms, and expanding the purpose and duties of the Arts Commission.

On motion by Bender, approved on voice vote, Consent Agenda items 3-6 were approved.

Chair Bender introduced item #2, an appeal regarding 1100 and 1118 University Ave NE, and called on Andrew Liska to present the staff report.

2. 1100 and 1118 University Ave NE ([15-00022](#)):

Considering an appeal filed by Roy Croaston, Jr., on behalf of McDonalds USA LLC., of the decision of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to uphold the decision of the Zoning Administrator in the determination of grade in relation to the measurement of sign height of two menu board signs, two Order Here signs, and a Drive Thru gateway sign located at 1100 and 1118 University Ave NE.

Council Member Goodman asked if this item hadn't already been presented to the Zoning & Planning Committee.

Staff Liska responded that an appeal was filed which brought it before the committee.

Zoning Administration Manager Steve Poor gave an outline of the history these sign applications have gone through.

Land Use Design Manager Jason Wittenberg further explained the route this item took in coming to today's appeal.

Staff Liska gave an explanation of how the Zoning Administrator determined the grade per his determination.

Attorney Erik Nilsson explained the legalities regarding revoking a variance.

The public hearing was opened at 10:17 a.m. and the following persons gave testimony:

- a) Darren Lazan, 105 5th Ave S
- b) Dennis Jackson, 308 12th Ave NE
- c) Beth Fochenbrock, 308 12th Ave NE
- d) Tim Kennedy, (behind McDonalds)

Seeing no further persons wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed at 10:43 a.m.

Zoning Administration Manager Steve Poor commented on the appellant's testimony.

On motion by Reich, approved on voice vote, the appeal was denied.

Chair Bender commended city staff's work in 2014 and was joined by Council Member Barbara Johnson in recognizing the outstanding leadership provided by the planning department.

With no further business to transact, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Reported by Diana Armstrong, Council Committee Coordinator