



Variance Review Board
City Council Chambers

City Hall
315 E. Kennedy Blvd., Third Floor
Tampa, Florida 33602

ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO FILE FOR A REVIEW ANY DECISION OF THE VARIANCE REVIEW BOARD MUST DO SO BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW OF BOARD DECISION WITH THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF THE BOARD'S ORAL DECISION.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMSTAFFANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AND SECTION 286.26, FLORIDA STATUTES, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT LEAST FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MEETING.

DRAFT MINUTES
(AS OF January 12, 2010)

MEETING DATE: January 11, 2011

MEETING TIME: 6:30 PM

I. ROLL CALL: Sue Lyon, Randy Baron, Antonio Amadeo, Nick Bradford, Steve Labour, Lucinda Utter. Gennero DiNola came in at 6:36 p.m.

Staff Present: Ernest Muller, Assistant City Attorney; Jonathan Scott, Transportation Planning Division; Mary Danielewicz-Bryson, Land Development Coordination; Staff, Land Development Coordination

Mr. Amadeo then went over the rules and procedures for the public hearing and the appeal process.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR December 14, 2010 – Lucinda Utter's name was incorrect and Nick Bradford stated that he was not at the meeting. Randy Barron made an motion and Steve Labour 2nd the motion to approve the minutes and amended. The minutes were approved unanimously 6-0.

Ernie Mueller went over exparte communications.

Mr. Amadeo asked staff if there was any information regarding the agenda. Staff stated VRB11-05 asked to be continued to February 8, 2011. VRB10-65 and VRB11-12 misnoticed. VRB10-52 and VRB11-17 were withdrawn. VRB11-09 asked for 60 day continuance. Mr. Baron moved to continue VRB11-09 and Mr. LaBour seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

The Board asked about how the continuances affect new cases. Staff stated that there will be about 15 or 16 cases. When they misnotice the case is told to notice for next hearing. The Board was concerned about the number of cases. The Board stated that for February leave the agenda as is and defer to attorney to see if there is ability to come up with a rule to address.

III. OLD BUSINESS: Cases Continued/ Missed Notice

A. Signs/Transportation

APPLICATION: VRB10-64
APPLICANT: Anchor Sign
AGENT: Joe Funderburk
LOCATION: 2102 E Fowler Ave.
REQUEST: To increase the allowable sign square footage from 45 to 74
PURPOSE: To place wall signs square footage on building frontage that both does and does not face a public street, and make them conforming.
NEIGHBORHOOD: University Square Civic

Staff introduced the case and went over the particulars of the case, including showing photos and the site plan. An explanation was given as to the difference between the site plan before them and the site plan that was submitted with the application.

Mr. Funderburk went over the request and stated that the circle is 20 square feet and the front is 38 square feet. Mature landscaping (trees) blocks the pylon sign along Fowler Avenue. He explained how the landscaping and traffic patterns affected the view for travelers heading westbound on Fowler.

Mr. DiNola moved to approve the request and was seconded by Mr. LaBour. The motion passed 7-0.

APPLICATION: VRB10-68
APPLICANT: Apple Sign and Awning, LLC
LOCATION: 1501 - 1511 South Dale Mabry Highway
REQUEST: To install a 17 square feet building/wall sign
PURPOSE: To install a sign and make it conforming
NEIGHBORHOOD: Palma Ceia West

Staff introduced the case and went over the particulars of the case 20.5-13(2)(a).ii, which states that if a business does not have a front door facing the street, it can not have a sign without a variance being granted.

Paul Lima of Apple Sign stated that he did not present case originally and that he understood that the board requested pictures of building. He showed pictures of building and stated some business have frontage on Dale Mabry. Mr. Lima showed floor plans and indicated that there is a pylon sign for residents that don't have frontage on Dale Mabry.

After Board discussion regarding signage and the aspects of this location, Mr. Baron moved to deny the request based on there being no hardship as there is ample location on pylon sign. Mr. LaBour seconded the motion, adding that the hardship was self-created, as the unit appears to have been subdivided. The motion to deny passed 7-0.

B. General Variances

APPLICATION: VRB11-04
APPLICANT: Elliott Wheeler
LOCATION: 3226 North Rome Avenue
REQUEST: To reduce the rear yard setback from 15' to 10',
with the allowed encroachment of the eaves and
gutters
PURPOSE: To construct a new residential addition
NEIGHBORHOOD: Old West Tampa

Staff introduced the case heard last month regarding what the board could hear and showed an aerial photo and a site plan. The applicant revised the site plan after meeting with transportation. The revised plan had resulted in all objections being withdrawn by Transportation.

Mr. Wheeler presented the variance and went over aerial photos, photos and the revised site plan. He showed other buildings on the alley including one 10' off the alley.

After Board discussion regarding the flood zone, grade of the property and design of the pool area, Mr. Baron moved to approve the request and was seconded by Mr. DiNola. The motion passed 5-2, with Mr. LaBour and Mr. Bradford voting nay.

APPLICATION: VRB11-06
APPLICANT: Yougui Wu
LOCATION: 16005 Burnham Way
REQUEST: To reduce the rear and side yard setbacks from 5'
to 1'
PURPOSE: To construct a pool enclosure
NEIGHBORHOOD: Tampa Palms

Staff introduced the case and reviewed the request with the Board, indicating that the screen enclosure was erected without permits.

Mr. Wu addressed the Board and showed the four trees on the site. Trees were small but as time went by the leaves became problem.

Warren Dixon spoke in favor of the request.

After Board discussion, Mr. Baron moved to approve the request and was seconded by Mr. DiNola. The motion passed 7-0.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **TREE & LANDSCAPE / TRANSPORTATION / SIGN VARIANCES**

APPLICATION: VRB11-14
APPLICANT: Red Lobster
AGENT: Site Enhancement Services
LOCATION: 2625 East Busch Boulevard
REQUEST: To increase the square footage of allowable signage from 50 to 100, to increase the height of a free standing sign from 10' to 20' and to reduce the front setback from a free standing sign from 20' to 10'
PURPOSE: To install new signage at an existing restaurant establishment
NEIGHBORHOOD: Terrace Park

Staff introduced the case, and briefly explained the proposal.

Shawn Smith, of Site Enhancement Services, went over the request. He explained that Red Lobster is going through national re-branding and changing the logo. Mr. Smith explained that the proposal is to use the existing steel and foundation, just to make it shorter with a smaller sign.

Mr. Baron questioned as to why the sign needed to be at 100 square feet, not the 50 square feet required by Code. Discussion ensued regarding the location of the sign and traffic visibility, with Mr. Smith showing aerials of how the sign is seen.

The Board discussed the case then closed the public hearing. At the request of Mr. Mueller, the hearing was reopened so that Mr. Smith could address the Board. He stated that he understood the issues and amended the request to eliminate the square footage increase.

Mr. DiNola moved to approve the amended application to reduce the setback from 20' to 10' and to increase the height from 10' to 20'. The motion was seconded by Mr. LaBour and passed 7-0.

B. **GENERAL VARIANCES**

VI. **BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair are going to be held next month.