

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY POLICY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Building D Large Conference Room
101 Mounts Bay Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185
August 25, 2016
2:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rich Krapf called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Mr. Rich Krapf
Mr. Heath Richardson
Mr. Danny Schmidt
Mr. John Wright

Absent:

None

Staff:

Mr. Bryan Hill, County Administrator
Mr. Paul Holt, III, Director of Community Development and Planning
Ms. Tammy Rosario, Principal Planner
Ms. Christy Parrish, Zoning Administrator
Ms. Roberta Sulouff, Planner
Ms. Kate Sipes, Assistant Director of Economic Development
Ms. Laura Messer, Event Coordinator
Ms. Tori Haynes, Community Development Assistant

C. MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. ZO-0010-2016, Mobile Food Vending Vehicles, Business and Community Input Meeting

Ms. Roberta Sulouff presented the results of the food truck survey and gave an overview of the proposed ordinance to allow food trucks in the M-1, M-2, PUD-C, and PL zoning districts.

Mr. Krapf asked Mr. Paul Holt to clarify the difference between food trucks and ice cream trucks.

Mr. Holt stated that food trucks are covered under County Code Chapter 24, Zoning. Ice cream trucks and other vendors that operate inside the right of way are covered under County Code Chapter 13, Motor Vehicles and Traffic. He stated that the Planning Commission is limited to amending Chapters 19 and 24 only. Any changes to Chapter 13 must be initiated by the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Holt stated that if the Policy

Committee would like to look into amending Chapter 13, he would be happy to pass along the information to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Krapf moved the discussion on ice cream trucks to the end of the meeting. He opened the floor to public comment.

Mr. Jim Kennedy, owner of Foodatude, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Mr. Jason Wade, co-owner of Two Drummers Smokehouse, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Ms. Donna Oard, owner of Karnage Asada Food Truck, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Mr. Lenny Berl spoke against allowing food trucks to operate when not part of a special event.

Ms. Cassandra Ayala, owner of Cast Iron Catering Company and Sofrito, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Ms. MJ Medlar, representing Street Food Revolutionaries, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Ms. Karen Riordan, representing the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Ms. Lucy Sharpe, owner of The Grilled Cheese Academy, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Mr. John Wade, co-owner of Two Drummers Smokehouse, spoke in favor of allowing food trucks.

Mr. Kennedy asked if the Economic Development Authority (EDA) would be making a comment.

Ms. Kate Sipes stated the EDA would be providing a letter of support at a later time.

Mr. Krapf initiated the Committee discussion.

Mr. John Wright asked if staff had researched the proposed food truck ordinance in the City of Williamsburg.

Ms. Sulouff stated that staff began their research before the City of Williamsburg started developing their ordinance.

Mr. Holt stated that staff can provide the City of Williamsburg's draft ordinance at the September meeting.

Mr. Danny Schmidt asked when York County began their food truck ordinance process.

Ms. Sulouff replied about a year ago.

Mr. Schmidt asked if staff had been in contact with York County Planning staff regarding the ordinance.

Ms. Sulouff stated that staff reached out to York County during the research phase, and they had not noted any major concerns at this point.

Mr. Heath Richardson suggested amending the 100-foot setback from residences and restaurants to allow food trucks closer than 100 feet when permission is explicitly granted by the property owner.

Mr. Wright asked the owners of Two Drummers Smokehouse if this regulation prevented them from parking their food truck in their restaurant's parking lot.

Mr. Wade replied that the restaurant serves as the food truck's commissary for their catering service, which allows their food truck to be parked next to their own restaurant under current regulations.

Mr. Krapf clarified that they can park in their parking lot, but cannot currently vend out of it.

Mr. Richardson asked if the 100-foot setback would apply if a residential neighborhood invited a food truck to a special event.

Ms. Christy Parrish clarified that residential districts have not been included in the proposed amendments. Additionally, food trucks are already allowed for special events or private catering services. She further explained that a catered private party is not considered a zoning issue because it is a temporary service to a select clientele. The proposed amendments apply only to food trucks that vend to the general public outside of special events or catering.

Mr. Krapf asked staff to add clarifying language to make it clear that this ordinance pertains to food truck vending operations.

Ms. Parrish suggested incorporating the clarifications into the accompanying policy guide. Mr. Holt concurred.

Mr. Chris Prince, owner of Poor Boys Burgers, asked that the Policy Committee consider specific language for food trailers. He stated that he is the owner of a food trailer, which is a fully contained kitchen towed by another vehicle, and was told that he did not meet the definition for food trucks in another locality.

Mr. Krapf noted the distinction.

Ms. Sulouff, addressing an earlier question, stated that Section 24-49(a) of the draft regulations specifies "when not in conjunction with a special event, for which a special event permit would be required per chapter 14 of the James City County Code, the operation of food trucks on appropriately zoned properties shall be permitted by administrative permit." She asked the Policy Committee for further direction in clarifying the language for special events, catering trucks, and food trucks.

Mr. Krapf suggested cross-referencing existing County Code sections that apply to catering and special events to differentiate from the regulations for food trucks.

Mr. Wright asked if the map presented at the meeting would be available to the public.

Mr. Holt stated that staff would make the map available electronically.

Mr. Krapf asked if the Policy Committee would still like to reduce the annual \$20 administrative fee to a one-time fee, as had been expressed at previous meetings.

The Committee members confirmed that they would.

Mr. Wright asked if the lighting regulations would be adequate for the safety of food truck operators and their patrons in parking lots at night. He also expressed concern that if lights are too bright, nearby drivers could be distracted at night.

Mr. Holt stated that the Zoning Ordinance already regulates lighting in parking lots, so he did not anticipate any problems with safety due to lighting.

Mr. Schmidt asked the audience where they typically install their lights.

Mr. Wade stated above the service window and menu areas.

Mr. Krapf stated that the draft ordinance already allows lighting on the menu board and customer areas.

Mr. Wright asked if one trash receptacle is adequate.

Ms. Sulouff confirmed that it would be, and is consistent with other localities' requirements.

Mr. Krapf, addressing the earlier discussion on ice cream trucks, confirmed that the Policy Committee would not be pursuing amendments for ice cream trucks at this time.

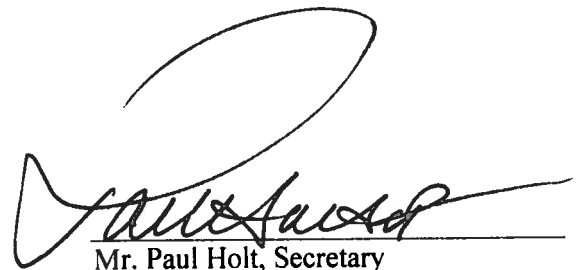
E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Richardson made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Krapf adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:10 p.m.


Mr. Rich Krapf, Chair


Mr. Paul Holt, Secretary