

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY POLICY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Building A Large Conference Room
101 Mounts Bay Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185
December 14, 2017
4:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jack Haldeman called the meeting to order at approximately 4 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Jack Haldeman, Chair
Rich Krapf

Absent:

Felice Pete
Danny Schmidt
Heath Richardson

Staff:

Tammy Rosario, Principal Planner
Ellen Cook, Principal Planner
Scott Whyte, Landscape Planner
Tom Leininger, Community Development Assistant

C. MINUTES

1. November 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Action on the minutes was deferred until the next meeting.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Potential Amendments to Address Formerly Proffered Policies Impact Mitigation Items:
Streetscape Policy - Stage II

Mr. Jack Haldeman opened the discussion.

Mr. Scott Whyte stated that at the November 1 Policy Committee meeting, staff discussed the need to prepare the draft Ordinance. He stated that the revision would require street trees within all major subdivisions. He stated that staff modeled the new Ordinance after the York County Subdivision Ordinance Section 20.5-84b6. He stated that after internal discussions with staff and consulting with the County Attorney's office, staff has amended both the Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances. He stated that the Subdivision Ordinance Section 19-27, Preliminary Plans-Submittal Requirements, was amended to require a landscape plan. He stated that Subdivision Ordinance Section 19-73.1, Street Trees, is a newly created section that lists standards and specification for street trees in major subdivisions. He stated that

Zoning Ordinance Section 24-102, Street Trees, is a newly created section of the Zoning Ordinance. He stated that the section list the standards and specifications for street trees in developments that contain multi-family units and/or apartments. He stated that staff recommends to send the draft proposal to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Haldeman asked if the caliper tree requirement would be modeled after the York County requirement of 2.5-inch caliper.

Mr. Whyte stated that the current policy states 1.5-inch caliper. He stated that there has been some debate about increasing the size. He stated that the plant experiences a greater shock when the plant is moved.

Mr. Rich Krapf asked if any mechanized equipment would be required to move a tree with a 1.5-inch caliper.

Mr. Whyte stated that trees with a 1.5-inch caliper come in a container and experience less root damage.

Mr. Krapf asked if there is any policy pertaining to trees hanging over electrical lines.

Mr. Whyte stated that an ornamental tree can be recommended if the height could be an issue.

Mr. Krapf asked if that is in the draft Ordinance.

Mr. Whyte stated that the language is in the policy currently.

Ms. Ellen Cook stated that an applicant can substitute the required shade tree with an evergreen or an elm tree with a landscape modification form.

Mr. Krapf asked what the process was to substitute the trees.

Mr. Whyte stated that he makes a recommendation to the Planning Director.

Mr. Haldeman asked if James City County would keep the policy for 20% canopy coverage in 20 years.

Mr. Whyte stated that during the revision of the canopy coverage, staff looked into the distance trees can be planted from the road. He stated that there is a restriction on distance from the road and will help accomplish the coverage percentage. He stated that it is difficult to measure the coverage.

Mr. Whyte stated that the current policy will be retained for older subdivisions that have not been installed yet as reference.

Mr. Haldeman stated that he did not see any issues.

Mr. Krapf confirmed and directed staff to bring forward the regulations to the Planning Commission.

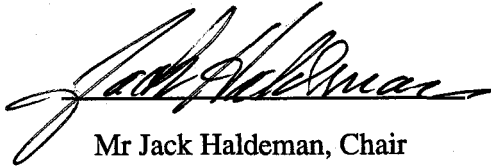
E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

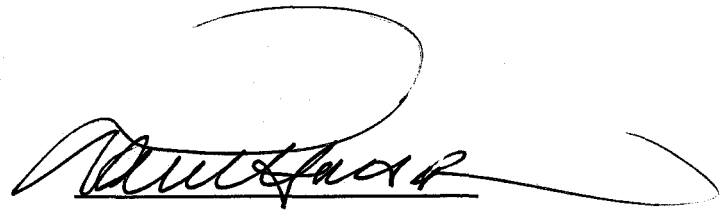
F. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Krapf made a motion to Adjourn. The motion passed 2-0.

Mr. Haldeman adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:25 p.m.



Mr Jack Haldeman, Chair



Mr. Paul Holt, Secretary