

CITY OF IONIA
Sign Board of Appeals
May 22, 2018
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mike Kirgis at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at City Hall.

ROLL CALL Roll call revealed Members Mark Jennings, Mike Kirgis and Troy Waterman present.

Others present included City Manager Jason Eppler, Ionia Free Fair Manager Michael Smith, Ionia Free Fair Board Members Keith Hesche, Aimee Stout and Kirk Wolthius; and, two representatives from Valley City Sign, on behalf of the Ionia Free Fair Association.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS The City Manager reported that since this is the first meeting of the calendar year of the Sign Board of Appeals/Zoning Board of Appeals, it is necessary for the Board to select officers to serve until the first meeting of either board during 2019.

It was moved by Member Jennings, seconded by Member Waterman, to select the following officers to serve until the first meeting of 2019:

Chairperson:	Member Kirgis
Vice-Chairperson:	Member Denny
Secretary:	Member Jennings

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE AGENDA Chairperson Kirgis reviewed the agenda. After review, it was moved by Member Jennings, seconded by Member Waterman to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE MINUTES The Board reviewed the minutes of the October 17, 2017 Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. After review, it was moved by Member Jennings, seconded by Member Waterman to approve the minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARING Chairperson Kirgis opened the Public Hearing to receive comments on the request from the Ionia Free Fair Association, 317 South Dexter Street, for the following sign variances in order to install a new pole sign at the Free Fairgrounds:

1. A variance from Section 1234.15A (c)(3)A.1. which requires that in no case shall a pole sign exceed 80 square feet. The sign proposed by the Fair is approximately 83.24 square feet. The variance requested is approximately 3.24 square feet of additional sign area.
2. A variance from Section 1234.15A (c) (3) A.1. and 2. which requires that the support structure of a pole for a pole sign be set back a minimum of 20 feet from the front lot line, and that for each foot that a sign is set back beyond the required front setback of 20 feet, the size of the a sign may be increased by one additional square foot. The applicant is requesting that the sign be set back from the right-of-way (front lot line) ten feet.

A sign of approximately 83.24 square feet is 35.24 square feet larger than the 48 square feet permitted at the 20 foot setback and is therefore required to be set back a distance of 55.24 feet from the front lot line (20 feet required and additional 35.24 feet). Since the applicant is requesting not only a variance of 10 feet from the required setback of 20 feet, but also the required setback of 55.24 feet, the total variance requested is for 45.24 feet of setback (10 feet + 35.24 additional feet = 45.24 feet).

No comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ionia Free Fair Association – 317 South Dexter Street – Request for Sign Variances: Chairperson Kirgis introduced representatives from Valley City Sign to review with the Board their request on behalf of the Free Fair Association. The application was reviewed and the rationale for the variances discussed. The applicant discussed the topography of the property, the number of attendees at events at the Free Fair Association and the need to communicate about events, parking locations, etc.

Board members asked several questions of the applicants regarding the request. After further discussion, it was moved by Member Jennings, seconded by Member Waterman, to grant the sign variance requests submitted by the Ionia Free Fair Association for the installation of a new pole sign at 317 South Dexter Street per the application and associated schematics submitted by Valley City Sign (and dated April 3, 2018) on the Fair's behalf based on the rationale provided by the Fair regarding their request and consistent with the

standards contained in Section 1234.18 of the City Code for granting sign variances.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Jennings	YES
Member Waterman	YES
Chairperson Kirgis	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

MEMBER COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Member Jennings, seconded by Member Waterman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 PM. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Eppler, Recording Secretary