

2. A variance from Zoning Code Sec. 54-15 (e) which states: LED signs shall be prohibited.

There is currently a 7ft. high by 9.75ft. wide monument sign located at the school's main entrance. This existing sign has a changeable copy board on the front that accommodates individually applied letters. The applicant would like to keep the existing sign structure, but replace the changeable copy board sign face with an electronic message board.

The applicant has submitted photos showing numerous electronic message boards located at Gwinnett County Schools outside of Peachtree Corners. In addition, the applicant has submitted the list of school activities at Pinckneyville which demonstrates the numerous events that take place on a daily basis.

Peachtree Corners' sign ordinance is very clear that electronic message boards are not allowed. However, such a sign exists at the Peachtree Corners Baptist Church. Staff was unable to locate documentation to determine how that sign was established. No permit records were found for the electronic message board at the church. Nevertheless, no schools in Peachtree Corners utilize electronic message boards. The only other electronic message board that staff is aware of is incorporated into the billboard on Peachtree Parkway. This sign is the result of a Gwinnett County court order.

Based on the evidence provided, it is clear that the school's existing sign is impractical and it is no longer wanted. The existing changeable copy board no longer meets Pinckneyville's needs and schools that have programmable electronic message boards have an advantage with regard to their ability to quickly and easily convey information. However, some of the variance criteria listed in the Zoning Resolution are tied to hardships in the land. In the past, sign variances have been granted for height, size, and setback where determinations have been made that topography, landscaping, positioning or similar land-based hardship exists. In this case, no land-based hardships have been submitted. Therefore, most, but not all, of the variance criteria have been met.

Mr. Mark Kasson, applicant & owner of Big Mouth Signs, Inc., spoke regarding variance application.

Chairman Knox opened the floor to anyone wanting to speak in favor or opposition to the application.

Marci Sledge, Principal of Pinckneyville Middle School, spoke in favor of the variance application. Andrea Antonwich, Co-President of Pinckneyville Middle School PTSA, spoke in favor of the variance application.

A motion was made after discussion concerning, among other items, location, animation, and brightness of the sign.

BASED ON A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE ENTIRE RECORD AND THE HEARING BEFORE THIS BODY, I MOVE THAT THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MAKE THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS AND APPROVE THE APPLICATION BEFORE IT; FIRST, THERE ARE EXTRAORDINARY CONDITIONS PERTAINING TO THIS PARTICULAR PROPERTY; SECOND, A LITERAL ENFORCEMENT OF THE ZONING RESOLUTION WILL RESULT IN UNNECESSARY HARDSHIP TO THE APPLICANT; AND THREE, GRANTING THIS APPLICATION WILL IMPROVE THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE; I FURTHER MOVE THAT THIS VARIANCE BE GRANTED WITH THE CONDITION THAT THE SIGN NOT INVOLVE ANY MOTION, FLASHING, BLINKING, SCROLLING, ROTATION OR VARYING LIGHT INTENSITY.

By: Eric Christ

Seconded: Marcia Brandes

I MOVE THAT WE MODIFY THE FIRST MOTION TO DENY THE FIRST VARIANCE REQUEST FOR ZONING CODE SECTION 54-10 (A) 5 AND GRANT THE SECOND VARIANCE REQUEST FROM ZONING CODE SECTION 54-15 (E) SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS THAT ARE OUTLINED IN FIRST MOTION.

By: James Blum

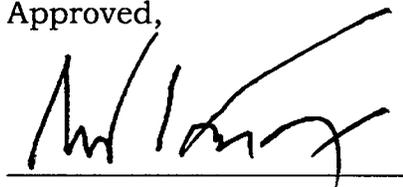
Seconded: Eric Christ

Vote: (5-0) (Blum, Christ, Knox, Brandes, Regmi)

CITY BUSINESS ITEMS: There was no City Business.

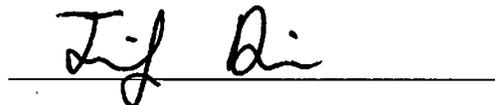
The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting concluded at 8:45 PM.

Approved,



Wayne Knox, Chairman

Attest:



Jennifer Davis, Deputy City Clerk

