

**PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING**  
**October 6, 2009**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Asia Bednar, Joe Paiement, Chris White, Diane Wirth, Kevin Witt

**STAFF PRESENT:** Chris Wallberg

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sharon Lee

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Joe Paiement at 7:01 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was said.
3. **MEETING MINUTES –M/S/P (White/Witt) to approve the September 1, 2009 meeting minutes. Motion passed.**
4. **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ANNUAL REVIEW**

**A. Public Hearing on Annual Review of City Conditional Use Permits**

- 1) **Call to Order** at 7:02 p.m.
- 2) **Introduction of Application** – Wallberg noted 50 Conditional Use Permits up for renewal; for the most part all comments were probably taken from their summaries; couple of written things that action would be appropriate.
- 3) **Public Comments** –  
Sharon Lee, Lakeland Antiques. The only thing she wanted to say was that she has made application to expand their CUP slightly to include foodstuffs and things that would not be made or created in the Antique Store but probably something like old time, old style candies.
- 4) **Written Comments** – Wallberg had a couple – Spot's Pet Grooming called today; plans to raise her sign up higher; there has been a change to the ordinance and she understands she can do that and is doing a sign that has already been approved; not an issue, but will include it with what the City Council approves next week; back in July there was a formal complaint filed about apparent repair work being done in the rear of the St. Croix Business Center; the boat motors are left running, and at times being revved over long periods of time and very loud; complainant has talked to the people at the boat business and it is apparently equipment that is being maintained by Anchors Aweigh, one of the tenants of that building; when they spoke with them, it was explained that a boat motor doesn't have a muffler and the reason is when you are in the water, the water muffles the sound; that is why it is so loud; she sent a letter to Dan Aldridge as Aldridge requested that he handle all businesses of the St. Croix Business Center on behalf of his tenants there; had hoped the situation had been taken care of, but apparently with the fall and more maintenance to be done, it continues; the email she received yesterday in regard to afterhours activity and noise created at the building specifically documents that on Thursday evening at 8:30 on September 24 there was a diesel truck in the back of the business for a long period of time [2.5 hours]; apparently they were trying to hook a boat to a trailer; her husband and she were in the backyard trying to enjoy the last of the autumn weather and had to listen to this; they went over to talk with them, called the sheriff a couple of times, the business owner, Anchors Aweigh, said they would take care of it but apparently came back at 10:30 and started the activity again and it went on until well into the night; that is a complaint that they have; she would like to be in touch personally with Aldridge given they had talked about his preference to do it and see if they can get it under control again; otherwise, the ordinances are very specific about legal steps that can be taken including that the CUP would be revoked; she would recommend that part of their recommendation would be that City Staff be in contact with Dan Aldridge to try to solve this problem; doesn't feel the permit should be held up for any reason. Paiement asked if any other complaints in regard to Anchors Aweigh. Wallberg has had other complaints from neighbors, but they don't want to make a formal complaint; thinks reasonable goal is they would keep activity within business hours; these particular complainants had a big college graduation party at their home and asked that it not take place during the party but it did and they are getting really frustrated with it; maybe Aldridge can work with those people to see if they can't get this resolved.
- 5) **Hearing Closed** at 7:05 p.m.

**B. Discussion & Recommendation**

Paiement noted the two (1) Anchors Aweigh complaint and (2) Sharon Lee is here on behalf of Lakeland Antiques; asked if any other comments on the sheet provided as a summary. Wallberg is not recommending any changes to the Conditional Use Permits; just the addition of those things that are administrative; Lee's is

administrative; when she approves those things she puts it on the Consent Agenda during the rest of the year just for CC information.

**M/S/P (Witt/Bednar) to make a recommendation to the City Council that all Conditional Use Permits be renewed for another year; that the Conditional Use Permit for Lakeland Antiques be amended to include the sale of candy/baked goods prepared off-site; that there be discussion with the owner of St. Croix Business Center in an attempt to resolve complaints of Anchors Aweigh, and that the new sign be approved for Spot's Pet Grooming. Motion carried.**

#### **5. MEMBER REPORTS**

Wallberg added that hopefully by the end of the year they would have their new codification and proceed to have an annual review, but there will be many fewer CUPs when codification comes to pass; would be her recommendation that those that are left City Staff would do reviews; the reason the PC has been asked to do it is simply feeling if she came from City Hall to talk to them about the business that was too heavy handed and businesses felt more comfortable working with PC members; the ordinance codification does specify that there would still be an annual review with that component that it gives the businesses a base within the City so that if they have questions, concerns, or problems then it feels like they are working together instead of the business against the City; hopefully if it comes back to them for review next year, it would be very abbreviated. White mentioned if they were still here next year. Paiement said it doesn't sound like they will. Wallberg said that part she can't answer; she is proceeding as if they will be here because she hasn't heard otherwise.

**6. ADJOURN - M/S/P (White/Bednar) to adjourn meeting at 7:11 p.m. Motion passed.**

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Joe Paiement, Chair

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Kate Piscitello, Recording Secretary