

**-MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION  
STONE HARBOR PLANNING BOARD**

July 18, 2016

4:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Hand, who stated that all requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act of 1975" had been met with the Press of Atlantic City having been notified of the Board's schedule for 2016 on December 18, 2015, and the schedule having been posted on Stone Harbor's website and the Municipal Clerk's Bulletin Board.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:**

Mayor Suzanne Walters  
Jill Gougher  
Thomas Hand, Chairman  
Wayne Conrad, Vice-Chair  
Robert D. Bickford, Jr.  
Lynne Dubler (Alternate)  
Mantura Gallagher

**Board Solicitor**

Andrew Catanese

**Board Secretary**

Diane Frangiose

**Zoning Officer**

Joanne Mascia

**Approval of June 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Mrs. Gougher to approve the Meeting Minutes for June 13, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Bickford. No further discussion took place. Roll call taken for members present at the June 13, 2016 meeting. Affirmative votes: Mrs. Gougher, Mr. Hand, Mr. Bickford, Mrs. Gallagher and Ms. Dubler. No further discussion took place.

**Heyer, Gruel Proposal Re Outdoor Dining**

Mr. Conrad provided information to Board Members regarding the consideration of sidewalk dining in the Borough. He stated that Heyer, Gruel had advised that they would be happy to take on the project study. Mr. Bickford asked how much Heyer, Gruel would be charging for the study to be done and Mrs. Gougher said about \$6,000. Mr. Conrad made a Motion to approve the expenditure and Mayor Walters seconded. Board members discussed the specifics of various places in the Borough where outdoor dining may or may not work and the consensus was that hiring Heyer, Gruel should be put on hold for the immediate future so the Sub-committee can make an assessment on the situation while considering the need to implement enforcing the Ordinance if it were put in place. Mr. Conrad withdrew his Motion and Mayor Walters withdrew the seconded. Mrs. Gallagher stated that perhaps the Sub-committee should talk to restaurant owners and invite them to a meeting to find out if they are interested in having outdoor dining in the Borough. If they are not interested or won't use it, then the Board needs to know that beforehand. The Sub-committee will report back to the Board next month with the results of their findings.

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**Off-season Signage Ordinance Proposal**

Mrs. Gallagher asked Mr. Bickford what prompted him to draft the Ordinance regulating free standing signs in 2012 and he said that store merchants vocalized their frustrations to the Board that their businesses needed increased visibility. Mr. Bickford said it was an effort to be responsive to business operators in town. A discussion by Board members ensued about off-season beginning the day after Labor Day.

Mr. Bickford said alternatives were considered in the draft 2012 Ordinance with respect to one sign per property; there was an intent to limit the size of the sign, the quality of the sign and the location on where it could be placed on the property. Mrs. Gallagher stated she will address this topic with Council. Mr. Bickford stated he would like a different approach from 2012 in that a few members of the Planning Board should give a presentation to Council letting them know what they are thinking and also provide background analysis to them. Board members agreed. Mrs. Gallagher said she will let Council know they can expect a presentation from the Planning Board and she will recommend that the Public Safety Committee take a look at it, get in touch with Mrs. Mascia regarding code enforcement and then the Planning Board can move forward with a presentation.

**Public Comment**

No one spoke. Public Session Closed.

**New Business**

No one spoke.

**Adjournment**

Having no further business, Mr. Hand called for a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Gallagher made the Motion and Mayor Walters seconded the Motion.

APPROVED: August 8, 2016

ATTESTED: Diane Frangiose  
Diane Frangiose, Secretary Stone Harbor Planning Board