

**Red Lion Borough Planning Commission Work Session Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Members present**

Cindy Barley  
Beth Nidam  
Evan Hiester  
Wade Elfner

**Others present**

Michelle Poole, Codes/Zoning  
Samantha Craley, Solicitor  
Mike Craley, Solicitor  
Stacy Myers, Recording Sec'y

1. The Committee reconvened (from their March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting) at 6:30pm.
2. **Tonight's work session is a continued discussion of updating & formatting the Sign section of the Borough's Zoning Ordinance, in addition to updating definitions so they provide clearer explanations.** Murals as "signs" had been discussed previously, most recently at a Council meeting where a business (who donated money towards a mural at the library) wanted to add their name to the mural. The Committee agreed that if the mural advertises a business, services, etc. it's considered a sign. Mrs. Poole relayed that to the business owner. Especially if the mural would state "sponsored by" or "donation by", then it is a sign.  
The Ordinance states the definition of a sign as *"any service, fabric, device or structure including billboards or poster panels, bearing lettered, pictorial or sculptured matter designed for visible communication and used for the purpose of bringing the subject thereof to the attention of the public, but not including lettering or symbols that are an integral part of another structure or any flag, badge or other insignia of any government, government agency or any civic, charitable, religious, fraternal or similar organizations."*  
Mrs. Poole read this to the business owner, which very clearly explained why a business name cannot be added to the mural. An alternative is to hang a plaque *inside* the library showing the names of the mural sponsors/doners.
3. **The Committee was in agreement that Spring Garden Township's Sign Ordinance was very clear and in a format that they would like Red Lion's to mirror. The associated definitions were read & revised as follows:**
  - A. **Advertising Signs**—A sign which directs attention to a business, product, service, or activity, sold or conducted at a location other than upon the premises where the sign is located also known as a billboard.
    - a) **Mobile Signs**—a sign constructed on a movable framework (including a vehicle) which can be moved from location to location. The sign has no permanent foundation in the form of footers or slab, in the ground.
  - B. **Portable Sign**—*this may be eliminated so as not to be redundant.* A sign of any material, with or without changeable type lettering, illuminated or nonilluminated, mounted or transported on a vehicle, trailer, or similar structure, with or without wheels, and not permanently attached to the ground; often referred to as a "mobile sign".
  - C. **Mural**—*to be revised to*—Artwork, images, illustrations or pictorial depiction on an exterior surface or building. A mural is a sign only if it is related by language, logo, or pictorial depiction to the advertisement of any product or service or the identification of any persons or businesses; artist signatures accepted.
4. **Of Spring Garden Township's Sign Ordinance, Section 310-13, Outdoor Signs, the following revisions were suggested to update Red Lion's Section 27-409.**
  - A. **These may be excluded from sign controls:**
    - a. Flags—except for those with commercial advertising.
    - b. Possibly add "A blanket exclusion of political signs (or any type of message) protected by the Freedom of Speech".
    - c. Any sign identifying the location of a municipal governmental facility.

**B. Number of signs permitted.** Suggested revisions as follows:

- a. One additional sign for each occupancy or purpose is permitted for every **100** feet of street frontage or major fraction thereof.
- b. No more than one sign **announcing** the sale or rental of a premises shall be placed on the property unless said property fronts on more than one street, in which case one sign may be located on each street frontage.

**C. Determination of size.**

- a. Wall or freestanding business (striking out “identification”) signs shall be limited to one square foot for each two lineal feet of horizontal building façade length, but not to exceed an aggregate area....No more than two freestanding sign structures shall be permitted per lot.
5. **Planning Commission will hold their regularly scheduled meeting**, Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 7:00p.m.
  6. **Adjournment**—With no further discussion, Mrs. Barley made a motion to adjourn @ 8:30pm. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Myers, Recording Secretary