

**Observer Report****Planning & Development Committee****Date: September 17,2018****Observer:** Jessica Feldman (via TV)**Meeting began:** 7:48pm**Meeting Ended:** 8:25pm**Committee Members:** Aldermen Wilson, Ch; Fiske, Wynne, Rue Simmons; Suffredin: and Revelle present.**Staff Present:** Johanna Leonard, committee staff person; and Sarah Flax. (only ones I could see.)**Media Present:** EvanstonNow and Evanston RoundTable (only ones I could see)**Citizen Comment:** Citizen comment is included under the discussion of each Ordinance.**For Action;**

(P1) Appeal to Planning & Development Committee of Design and Project Review Committee Decision Denying Variance for Commercial Variable Message Sign (CVMS) for Citgo Station at 1925 Green Bay Rd

Alderman Rue Simmons moved to deny request for hearing: “such a scrolling electronic sign not aesthetic she wants for the Ward. Would prefer a citywide ban on such signs.” Owner applicant defended the request saying the age of the current signage needed to be replaced to be consistent with current trends; there were other such signs in town; location of signage cannot be too close to building. Alderman Wilson recommended need more information; keep working. I could not hear a second but Chair announced motion approved to deny Approved 5-1

(P2) Landlord-Tenant Services with Metropolitan Tenants Organization & Lawyers’ Committee for Better Housing. Housing and Homeless Committee and staff recommended a not to exceed \$70,000 contract with above organizations for tenant-landlord services. Two citizens objected to request stating that “we didn’t know what we were getting” and “they (who not identified) not dealing with the community (the consumers). Sarah Flax explained “how we got here”. Outside agencies have been providing a variety of tenant/landlord services since 2012 when City decided to outsource tenant-landlord service; Open Communities is not providing such services anymore. These agencies both provide education services regarding processes to tenants; work closely with tenants and landlords. (City has low eviction numbers for tenants in the programs.) Alderman Simmons asked if holding up request would cause difficulty? Answer lost. Motion approved (no second heard).

**For Introduction**

(P3) Ordinance 41-O-18, Amending City Code Section 6-16, Table 16-B, “Schedule of Minimum Off-Street Parking Requirements” Staff is proposing to adjust the parking requirements for dormitories, fraternity, and sorority houses. The proposed text amendment still requires more than the 1 to 16 ratios of students with parking permits to those eligible to obtain parking permits. The proposed amendment would reduce the total required parking spaces on NU’s campus from 4,096 to approximately 3,493.

**Approved**

(P4) Ordinance 105-O-18, Amending Portions of the Zoning Ordinance Creating Brew Pubs and Craft Alcohol Production Facilities. Approved. (Only Alderman Rue Simmons heard.)

- P5) Ordinance 108-O-18, Special Use Permit and Major Variations for a Banquet Hall and a Brew Pub, Double Clutch Brewing Company, at 2119-2125 Ashland Avenue/.
- Alderman Wilson moved to approve. Second heard. One citizen spoke expressing concern about relationship with important neighboring stakeholders –two churches. Concerned about attention being paid to avoid conflicts so services not interrupted; applicant didn't come back to the community to assure about concerns raised at community meeting.
- Alderman Rue Simmons spoke strongly in favor of approval; said company has extensive experience; would be good for the Ward; provide an event space unlike any other in Ward; applicant reached out to the community and applicant did follow up with community where there was concern about signage. Approved.
- (P6) Ordinance 103-O-18, Granting a Special Use for a Type 2 Restaurant, Backlot Coffee, at 2004 Central Street Alderman *Revelle recommends suspension of the rules for Introduction and Action at the September 17, 2018 City Council.*  
*For Introduction and Action Alderman* Wynne moved approval. Approved.
- (P7) Ordinance 104-O-18, Granting a Special Use and Zoning Relief to Expand a Daycare Center - Child at 2200 Main Street. *Alderman Braithwaite recommends suspension of the rules for Introduction and Action at the September 17, 2018 City Council. For Introduction and Action Alderman Braithwaite* spoke in favor of approval. Approved. Aye votes heard.)
- (P8) Ordinance 102-O-18 Granting a Special Use for a Type 2 Restaurant, Kilwins Chocolates, at 1724 Sherman Avenue. Approved.
- (P9) Ordinance 106-O-18, Granting a Special Use for a Public Utility and Major Zoning Relief for a Fence (Concrete Wall) at 514 Custer Avenue. Alderman *Fleming asked for Introduction and Action on this item.* This is for the replacement of existing ComEd equipment with “DC-in-a-box” utility equipment, and major zoning relief for placement of a 20'-tall fence (concrete wall) for safety and thermal screening of the new utility equipment, at 514 Custer Ave. Alderman Fleming told Committee that ComEd has done what it could about appearance in its plan for such a” fence” Moved and seconded to approve motion, Approved.