

**CITY OF ANNA MARIA
PLANNING & ZONING BOARD WORKSHOP
MEETING HELD AT ANNA MARIA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10005 GULF DRIVE – ANNA MARIA, FL
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1010
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stover called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

PRESENT: Boardmembers Margaret Jenkins, Mike Yetter, Frank Pytel, Bob Barlow, Vice-Chair Sandy Mattick, and Chair Randall Stover.

Staff Present: City Clerk Alice Baird, Building Official Bob Welch, City Planner Alan Garrett, and Minutes Clerk Stacey Johnston.

Discussion of Items

1. Workshop on Chapter 70 Definitions

Chair Stover thanked the Boardmembers for their participation so far with the definitions. No discussion was held regarding the Chapter 70 definitions that evening.

2. Safety Issues for Individual Motorized Vehicles and Bicycles

A Power Point presentation was shown by *Chair Stover* showing pictures of random safety hazards he witnessed throughout the City. The pictures included safety concerns involving both motorized and non-motorized vehicles.

City Safety Issues included:

- Segways traveling down the middle of the street.
- Children 8 and 10 years of age riding a Segway down the middle of the street.
- Segways riding on Pine Ave on the 4-ft wide sidewalk.
- Segways traveling behind the parked vehicles at the City Pier.
- Bicycle traffic.
- Maintenance (mowing) vehicle parked in the right-of-way.

Chair Stover asked that the Boardmembers discuss what they felt should be the proper regulations and control of all the new activities relating to EMV's (Electric Motorized Vehicles) taking place on the City's streets and sidewalks.

Chair Stover stated that any business could begin operating in the City if they meet the zoning requirements. He pointed out that the City does require a Business Tax Receipt.

Discussion followed relating to the EMV's. Chair Stover noted that allowances would be made as far as ADA requirements for the legally impaired.

Sergeant Turner addressed the Board and summarized the Florida State Statutes that relate to operation of a Segway. He informed that the Segway business owner in Anna Maria will rent the Segways up to a week at a time and wants to do everything possible to follow the rules. He said the owner was surprised to find that the City did not require a Business Tax Receipt. Sergeant Turner further noted that:

- Golf Carts have to be licensed in order to drive in the roadways. Windshields are required.
- Florida State Statute 316.003 defines a Segway and states that it is not a vehicle – that it is classified as an Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device.
- Florida State Statute 316.2068 defines a Segway and states that it may be operated on a street with a posted speed limit of less than 25 M.P.H., can be operated on a marked bicycle path, any street where bicycles are permitted, or on a sidewalk or intersection.

- A valid driver's license is not needed to operate a Segway and the Segway does not need to be registered.
- A person under sixteen years of age is required to wear a bicycle helmet in order to ride or operate a Segway.
- The Sheriff's Department has not investigated or responded to any traffic crashes in Anna Maria involving Segways. There have not been any documented cases involving Segways. There have been no uniform traffic citations involving Segway issues.
- Segways have not been observed being operated on the beach. There has been one report that a Segway was on the Beach, however, no report was written because the allegations were never verified.
- There have been reports of Segways trespassing and doing "doughnuts". However, a report was not written because the allegations were never verified.
- Segways are seen traveling two and three abreast.
- Children appearing to be younger than five years of age are operating Segways – some with no parental supervision.
- There has only been one report of a golf cart on a Beach access roadway.
- He discussed the difficulty in ticketing an underage child without an ID.

Chair Stover informed that the Thrasher's at 425 Pine Ave. now have approximately 200 bicycles for rent – including 3-wheel bicycles, electric bicycles, and 4-wheel bicycles.

Sergeant Turner explained that a multi-wheeled cycle fell under the same category as a bicycle – being operated by human power. Bicycles are allowed on the sidewalks in Anna Maria but must yield to pedestrians. They are not required to yield to pedestrians when riding on a bike path. A signaling device is required.

Chair Stover felt that the Florida State Statute regulations relating to Segways was very liberal. He pointed out that the 2009 Florida Statute 316.2068 (5) states "A county or municipality may prohibit the operation of electric personal assistive mobility devices on any road, street, or bicycle path under its jurisdiction if the governing body of the county or municipality determines that such a prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety." He noted that Sanibel, FL has a very restrictive law relating to Segways versus there being no laws in Anna Maria that regulate Segways. In order to get approval to use an EMV in Sanibel, a doctor's permit is required.

Boardmember Mattick said along with Segways, she had also seen electric skateboards, motorized coolers, etc.

Chair Stover asked that the Board discuss what they felt were important restrictions that should be made in regard to Segways as it relates to safety concerns. He suggested that the P&Z Board present an Ordinance to the City Commission for their consideration. He noted that the County is spending \$1 million per year to promote the Island. As a result, the City will be experiencing even more traffic and activities on the Island.

City Planner Garrett noted that Segways are only operated in the City of Sarasota when a tour guide is present.

Discussion followed relating to the question of insurance liability requirements.

The following suggestions were made relating to Segways:

- No desire to prohibit Segways altogether – only regulate them in order to be proactive as far as safety.
- Review Sanibel's Ordinance as an example and come up with a compromise for Anna Maria.

- That Segways not be allowed on the Beach. *Sergeant Turner* informed that the Segway owners also did not want them to be ridden on the Beach.
- That a minimum age requirement is established and that a valid ID is required – example was a licensed driver.
- Helmets are required.
- Regulations as to the number of persons that can ride abreast on the street.
- Require the EMV business owner to carry insurance if the renter is uninsured.
- Specify hours of operation and not to be operated once it turns dusk.
- The motorized vehicle rental company would be responsible for handing out and providing the written regulations to the renters.
- An underage child would be allowed to ride a Segway at a specific location with adult supervision. The Civic Center and Bay Front Park were used as examples.

Public Comment

Larry Albert agreed that Segways should not be allowed on the Beach. He also suggested that 3-wheeled tricycles should be regulated.

3. Loading Zones in the ROR District.

Chair Stover continued with the Power Point presentation showing examples of safety concerns in regard to the loading zones in the ROR District. Pictures included examples of:

- A Bud Light truck parked over the white line.
- Parking of lawn trucks.
- Parking on the sidewalks resulting in the sidewalks not being available to the pedestrians.
- A truck parked in the wrong direction on the street and trucks parked in the right-of-way.

Boardmember Pytel provided the example of the 18-wheeled trucks, delivery trucks, etc. that deliver to Rotten Ralphs and the Marina on S. Bay Blvd. The types of deliveries include food service tractor trailers, Budweiser trucks, delivery of seafood, pastries, propane, and at least eight contractors on a daily basis. He informed that the trucks will park in the middle of the street and will then back down the street in order to maneuver around to turn around. He said there needed to be a loading zone at Rotten Ralphs, however, there also needed to be more parking spaces.

Boardmember Pytel said that the Marina has also had deliveries of boats and the trucks will park on the streets.

Boardmember Mattick said there were 27 regular vendors who delivered at the General Store when she was the owner. She also stated that Pepsi had been talking about consolidating and allowing Sisco to deliver for them.

The following discussion and suggestions were made relating to loading zones in the ROR:

- That there is a central warehouse located on the Island for a business to pick up their deliveries – allowing for a discount to the business owners.
- Size restriction is placed on trucks.
- No trucks over a certain weight limit would be allowed to drive on the streets.
- Loading zone requirements on Pine Ave. would be on a voluntary basis. The developer would be required to make a choice between a loading zone and the parking space.

- Sidewalks need to be wider and need moved in towards the buildings to allow for parallel parking.
- More space between the sidewalk and the street.
- Rotten Ralphs – Needs smaller delivery trucks and specific times of the day that deliveries can be made.

Next Meeting Date

Discussion followed as to whether or not an additional Workshop was needed to discuss the issue of safety and loading zones. *Chair Stover* stated he would like to present a P&Z Board consensus to the Commission for their consideration.

In response to *Boardmember Pytel's* suggestion that he would like to see a review of the suggestions in writing so that a consensus could be reached, *Chair Stover* asked that Boardmember Pytel provide an outline of the results of the discussions that evening to present at their next Workshop.

The next meeting is a Public Hearing relating to imposing a moratorium on the Conservation Land Use District and will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2010. It was agreed that the P&Z will hold a Workshop immediately following the regular meeting that evening.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Stover at 8:05 p.m.

Alice Baird, CMC, City Clerk