

Harwich Planning Board Legal Notice - Proposed Zoning Amendments

In accordance with the provisions of MGL c.40A §5, the Harwich Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 no earlier than 6:30 pm in the Donn B. Griffin Room, Harwich Town Hall, 732 Main Street, Harwich, to consider amendments to the Harwich Zoning Code:

ARTICLE: - Zoning Bylaw Article Freestanding Portable Sign

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaw §325-2 Word usage and definitions and by addition a new §325-26.K as follows:

Within §325-2 delete the existing definition of "A-Frame/Easel/Sandwich-Board Signs" and replace with the following definition: "**FREESTANDING PORTABLE SIGN**" – A single or double-faced, self-supporting sign made of wood, cardboard, plastic, metal or other lightweight and rigid material.

And, add a new §325-26.K to read as follows:

K. Freestanding Portable Sign.

- (1) A sign permit from the Building Department shall be required;
 - (2) The area of the sign shall be no more than six (6) square feet per side;
 - (3) The sign height above the ground shall not exceed three (3) feet;
 - (4) The sign width shall not exceed three (3) feet;
 - (5) The sign shall be unlit, shall be inaudible, and shall have no moving parts (except any necessary hinge to fold and unfold said sign);
 - (6) The sign shall be stable and have no external supports;
 - (7) The sign area (one side only) shall count towards the total allowable sign area (in square feet) for the business, pursuant to §325-27
 - (8) The sign shall indicate no more than the name of the business, a special event, hours of operation, sale of a product or service, and price;
 - (9) Only one (1) freestanding portable sign per business may be located on a property; a business with street frontage on two (2) streets may have no more than one (1) such sign on each street front; however, if there are multiple businesses on a property, there shall be no more than one (1) such sign per business, regardless of the street frontage;
 - (10) The sign may only be displayed up to two (2) hours before the business is open to the general public and during the time business is open to the general public; and
 - (11) The sign shall also comply with the requirements of §325-26.D-G, above;
- or take any other action thereon.

ARTICLE: - Zoning Bylaw Article Retaining Wall(s) for Septic Systems

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaw §325-16, Table 2 and to add a new subparagraph "R. Retaining Wall(s) for Septic Systems" to §325-18, as follows:

§325-16, Table 2, add a Note "3" to the "Front (feet)", "Side (feet)", and "Rear (feet)" columns, which shall read as follows: "3May be reduced to 10 feet for Septic System pursuant to §325-18.R."

And,

§325-18 add a new subsection “R. Retaining Wall(s) for Septic Systems” to read as follows:
“R. Retaining Wall(s) for Septic Systems. The provisions of §325-17 notwithstanding, on an improved parcel, a retaining wall(s) associated with the installation of a septic system (e.g. mounded septic system) required by the Board of Health and/or Title 5, shall be setback no less than 10 feet to any lot line;

or take any other action thereon.

Any person interested or wishing to be heard on these zoning proposals should appear at the time and place designated. The full text for the proposed amendments can be found on the Town Website <http://www.harwich-ma.gov/planning-board>, and in the Community Development and Town Clerk Offices at Town Hall, at the address noted above, during normal business hours.

James Joyce, Chair

Cape Cod Chronicle Print Dates: 2/21/19, 2/28/19

PLEASE NOTE: On the following pages please find the existing bylaw language and the proposed bylaw language.

Existing Definition of “A-Frame/Easel/Sandwich-Board Signs”

“A-FRAME/EASEL/SANDWICH SIGNS” - Usually a double-faced, freestanding, portable sign.

Other Existing Requirements

There are currently no other regulations or standards specific to A-Frame/Easel/Sandwich Signs, except those pursuant to §325-26 General requirements, specifically subsections:

- A. Before a nonexempt sign (see § 325-31) is erected, constructed, structurally altered or moved, it shall conform to all applicable requirements contained in this bylaw, including Historic District requirements when applicable, and shall be approved and shall have received a permit from a Building Official unless the sign is expressly exempted herein from the provisions of this bylaw.
- D. Sign placement shall not create a hazard or interfere with snow removal or vision or movement of motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.
- E. All signs shall be reasonably placed so as to not obscure other signs.
- F. No signs shall be located in a public right-of-way nor shall they be located so as to block a public or private sidewalk, stairway, driveway or parking lot or impair sight distances for motorists or pedestrians.
- G. No sign shall be affixed to or posted in front of any guardrails located in a public right-of-way.

Proposed Definition of “Freestanding Portable Sign”

“FREESTANDING PORTABLE SIGN” – A single or double-faced, self-supporting sign made of wood, cardboard, plastic, metal or other lightweight and rigid material.

Proposed new §325-26.K Freestanding Portable Sign

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