

MOAB CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
July 9, 2026

Call to Order and Attendance: Moab City Planning Commission held its regular meeting on the above date in City Council chambers. Audio is archived at www.utah.gov/pmn and video is archived at www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhAboJFudas. Commission Chair Kya Marienfeld called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Commission Members Jill Tatton and Carolyn Conant attended. Conant attended via electronic means. Also in attendance were Community Development Director Cory Shurtleff, Associate Planner Johanna Blanco, Junior Planner Kate Poynter, City Council Liaison Miles Loftin and Planning Technician Kelsi Garcia.

Citizens to be Heard: Marienfeld indicated written comments were received regarding the workshop item and would be reviewed at that time.

Approval of Minutes: Commission Member Tatton moved to approve the draft minutes of the June 11, 2026, regular Planning Commission meeting. Commission Member Conant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Workshop: Sign Code

Associate Planner Blanco presented the municipal sign code, as part of the overall code amendment project. She stated her goals for the code amendment included simplification, deletion of code that necessitates that regulators read the sign to distinguish which code will apply, and review of current practices. She gave examples of language and policy simplification, free speech issues, and more. Blanco outlined the timeline and next steps. School district signs were noted as exceptions to the ordinance. Community Development Director Shurtleff presented historical perspective on flashing signs and exempt properties and conditions such as gas station prices. Commission Chair Marienfeld summarized a citizen letter from Kalen Jones regarding proposed changes to the sign code. Lighting standards were discussed in relation to illuminated signs, as related to the Dark Sky ordinance. Shurtleff reviewed the history of temporary, political and residential signs, and discussion ensued regarding size, illumination and content of signage and enforceability issues. Blanco and Shurtleff discussed highway and non-highway frontage rules. Conant spoke about the stated and edited purposes of the sign ordinance. Rooftop signs, pole signs, minimum and maximum heights, neon, flashing lights, and sizes and number of freestanding signs were all considered. Discrepancies with setbacks and the definition of monument signs were mentioned, as well as signage for shopping centers. Signs on vehicles and off-premises advertising were examined, in the context of prohibited signs. Shurtleff brought up a new state law regarding political signs in public right of ways. Food trucks and feather signs were discussed. Conant asked if feather signs could be combined with the total signage area allowed. Exempt signs regarding public safety, wayfinding, and various services were commented on. Holiday décor and murals were mentioned. Sign permits and review procedures were brought up. Whether or not a sign or mural advertises an extant business or is public art was deliberated.

Future Agenda Items:

Blanco noted that the probable lack of a quorum at the next meeting necessitated cancellation of that meeting. She also noted that the planning staff would be attending a conference on the meeting date of September 10. She said the August 13 meeting would have a full agenda, with a probable site plan review, a code amendment, a presentation by the Sustainability Director and an update on the vendor code draft. She added that staff had been working on the code update and would bring progress to the planning commission. Shurtleff discussed proposed changes to the responsibilities of the planning staff and the commission. Blanco added that new appointments to the commission should be made at the next City Council meeting. Commission Member Conant announced her departure from the commission and praised the work of the commission for the last three years.

Adjournment: Commission Chair Marienfeld adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.