

Commissioner Booth: Next item on the agenda PZO-2019-01 requested by Larry Cochran, Parish President to amend the Zoning Ordinance to clarify the definition of child daycare home and child daycare center. Ms. Stein.

Ms. Stein: Thank you Mr. Chair. In 2015 had a pretty major overhaul to the zoning ordinance, we were modernizing and simplifying the zoning ordinance and the bulk of the work was done in definitions. We streamlined home occupation permitting and we put some additional uses in it including ADU's. Since that time we've handled 3 or more requests for child daycares in the home. We are also relatively new to the state building code that was adopted shortly after Hurricane Katrina. When we deal with these in home daycares what we're finding is that our definitions that we adopted in 2015 have a lot of distinctions and categorizations and different discussions and different thresholds of intensity that don't line up with state law for the agencies that oversee these in home daycares that include the State Fire Marshal, the Department of Education, and in some instances the Department of Family and Child Services. It's convoluted, it causes a lot of stress and strain to the applicants and ultimately it pits them against the building official who would consider an in home daycare, a commercial building with 6 or more children, so for that reason we recommend reducing the number of children allowed in an in home daycare to 5. This clarifies our ordinance, streamlines it, makes it simple, protects the neighborhood character and also keeps the building official from having to look at a house in the neighborhood and put commercial building standards on it so we ask for your support.

Commissioner Booth: Thank you Ma'am. Public hearing for PZO-2019-01, clarification of definition for home and child daycare center, anyone here to speak for or against this particular issue? Any questions or comments from the Commission? Seeing none, the public hearing is closed. We'll call for the vote.

YEAS: Gordon, Granier, Richard, Booth, Frangella, Galliano
NAYS: Petit
ABSENT: None

Commissioner Booth: That passes unanimous going to the Council on February 4th.
