



**CHARLOTTE**  
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG  
PLANNING

# **Internet Sweepstakes and Internet Café**

## **CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP**

**November 10, 2011**

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Project Background
- Responsibilities
- Meeting Recap
- Proposed Recommendations
- Group Discussion
- Timeline / Next Steps



# Greetings



- Name
- Organization or interest you represent



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# Background / Responsibilities

# Project Background



June 20, 2011, City Council directed staff to proceed with a public process to create a text amendment for internet sweepstakes / internet cafés

## Citizen Advisory Group (CAG):

- Attend and participate in meetings
- Help identify issues and concerns
- Help identify possible solutions
- **Provide feedback on staff recommendations**



# Responsibilities



## Staff:

- Attend and facilitate meetings
- Educate and inform
- Help identify issues and concerns
- Help identify possible solutions
- **Develop recommendations**
- Present recommendations to Planning Commission and City Council



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# Meeting Recap



## Summary of Meetings:

### Meeting one:

- Introduction of project

### Meeting two:

- Zoning Overview
- Districts & Types
- Group Exercise





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# Group Exercise Results

# Group Exercise

Are internet sweepstakes and internet cafés the same use?

- Same – Sweepstakes
- Same – Business center
- Not the same – Sometime functions like a café



# Group Exercise

What type of use is an internet business?

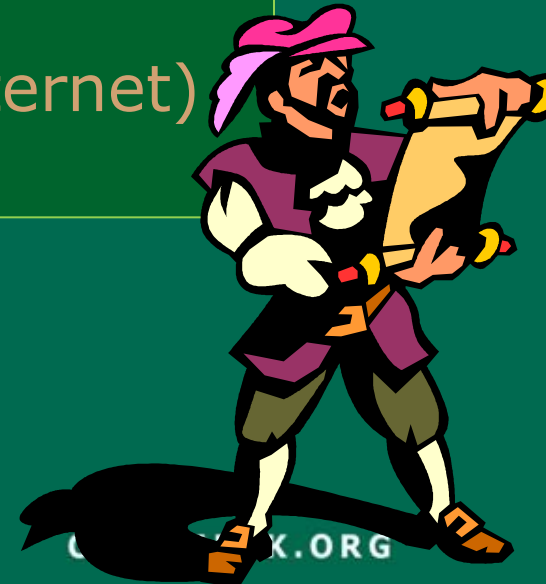
- Retail
- Educational
- Social entertainment



# Group Exercise

What are the Characteristics of an internet sweepstakes / internet café?

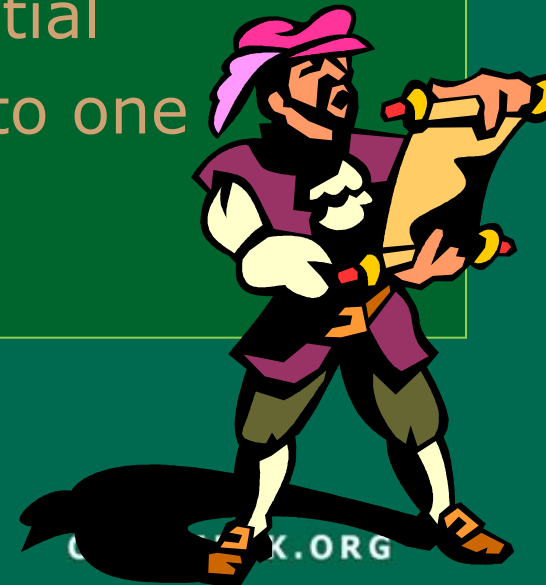
- Age restricted
- May serve food
- No cover charge
- Computers are used
- Operate as a business (fax, print, internet)



# Group Exercise

## What are issue and concerns?

- Age Restrictions
- Operational Hours
- Serving alcohol
- Parking
- Security/safety
- Establishment proximity to residential
- Establishments proximity to close to one another





## Sweepstakes Establishments

- An establishment where computers, devices, or software are provided by the business or patrons to access games or similar sites;
- whether free or by purchase;
- where cash, merchandise or other items of value are redeemed or otherwise distributed;
- whether or not the distribution is determined by games played or are predetermined.



Proposed districts only **under prescribed conditions:**

- B-2 = Commercial District
- I-1 = Industrial District
- CC = Commercial Center District

# Proposed Prescribed Conditions

- If alcoholic beverages are provided, the establishment will be considered a nightclub;
- Four hundred (400) foot separation distance between Sweepstakes Establishments;
- Parking: (1) space per every one hundred (100) square feet of gross floor area;

# Proposed Prescribed Conditions

- Non-conforming Sweepstakes Establishments once discontinued shall not be allowed to operate;
- The use shall meet the signs provisions of Section 13;
- The use shall meet the buffer and landscape provisions of Section 12;
- All State, City, and local regulations and laws shall be met.



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# Group Discussion



## Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting Dates:

- September 29, 2011 – Community Workshop
- October 11, 2011
- October 27, 2011
- **November 10, 2011**
- December 8, 2011
- Other meetings if necessary



**Tonight's presentation and future CAG materials, including meeting minutes, will be posted at:**

[www.charlotteplanning.org](http://www.charlotteplanning.org)

