

**ACTION MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON JANUARY 19, 2017**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. ROLL:** Also present were Vice Chairman Hoopes and Commissioner Balcazar and Fuelling. Commissioner King was absent.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were none.
- V. CONSENT CALENDAR:** The agenda was rearranged with Public Hearing items VI. A and B being taken first, followed by Consent Calendar Item V.A.
 - A. **Minutes** – 11/17/2016 meeting. The minutes were approved. Approved 3-0-1. Gordon/Balcazar. Chariman Moldafsky abstained.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. **Design Review 17-01;** Ucode; 468-A Foothill Blvd.; request to allow a new internally-illuminated wall sign.

Planner Gjolme gave a presentation in accordance with the staff report. The applicant is requesting a blue and white channel letter wall sign. The letter, "U," in the sign is topped with a cap. The size and spacing of the letters is less than that allowed by code. The sign is simple and crisp, yet unique, given the additional motto copy that reads after the business name, "U Code." The letters will have a matte finish as typically required through review.

The Commission asked about the background color on the building.

Staff indicated that the color is beige.

The Public Hearing was opened.

The applicant's representative, Bob Packum, spoke. He explained that the sign is proposed to be internally lit and he provided the material and color board for the Commission to view.

The Commission provided favorable comments about the sign.

M/S/C – Hoopes/Balcazar to approve the sign. Approved 4-0.

- B. **Design Review 16-18 (Advisory);** La Canada Imports; 1537 Foothill Blvd.; preliminary review of a new monument sign.

Planner Gjolme gave a presentation in accordance with the staff report. He explained that the Design Commission is to review the design and advise the Planning Commission, who will in the future, hear a request for a Variance for the monument sign. Mr. Gjolme explained that the sign will consist of painted aluminum cabinet, the copy will contain a chef logo, and it will be up-lit with external lighting. The monument sign is proposed to be placed within a 30-foot strip between two driveways.

Staff and the Commissioners discussed the ideas the two businesses on the site have for their signage as they relate to placement on the site, type of sign (pole or monument), and distance apart from one another.

The Commission expressed great concern about setting a precedent for the design of the La Canada Imports sign or any future change to the other business's sign.

Mr. Gjolme clarified for the Commission that the proposed La Cañada Import sign will be double-sided and placed perpendicular to the street.

The Public Hearing was opened.

A representative for the applicant, Arbi Manukian, who is also the sign contractor, stated that he believed that two individual monument signs on the property would be more aesthetically pleasing than one sign to be shared by the two businesses.

Commissioner Fuelling said that he liked the proposed sign and the fact that individual business signs are proposed.

Chairman Moldafsky expressed his concern that the City and Commission are placed in the middle of a decision that is the direct result of two existing businesses not getting along. The issue involves a tenant-landlord dispute.

Commissioner Fuelling expressed his concern with the decision that is arrived at by the Commission being precedent-setting.

The Commission reviewed conceptual design options and indicated that they preferred Option #2.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS: There were none.

IX. COMMENTS FROM STAFF: Mr. Gjolme informed the Commission that A+ Appliance's remodel that was approved by the Commission looks very good. He also told the Commission that the 76 Station's (Northwest corner of Foothill Blvd. and Angeles Crest Highway) monument sign that was installed with digital components that are not allowed by the City, will be removed and reinstalled with the correct signage, soon. Staff has been in touch with the business who provides status updates on the timeline for installing the correct signage. Finally, the office building located a few doors down from the current City Hall was sandblasted and repainted with like-for-like colors which did not necessitate going before the Commission for approval.

Vice Chairman Hoopes remarked how nice the street signage replacement looks in the City.

Mr. Gjolme mentioned that the Arco pole sign should be coming down soon as the business has approval for a new compliant monument sign as well.

X. ADJOURNMENT: M/S/C – Gordon/Fuelling to adjourn at 8:40 a.m. Approved 4-0.