

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2014**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. **ROLL:** Present were Commissioners Hoopes, Tobias, and Vavoulis, Director of Community Development Stanley, Planners Gjolme and Clarke. Commissioner Roberts was absent.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. **SELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN:** Tabled to next meeting since Commissioner Roberts was not in attendance.
- V. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were no comments.
- VI. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** Action Minutes – 1/16/2014 Design Commission meeting. M/S/C Tobias/Vavoulis to approve the minutes as submitted. unanimous 4-0.
- VII. **CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None.
- VIII. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
 - A. **Design Review 13-19;** DCG; 1043 Foothill Blvd.; façade and landscape changes.

Planner Clarke gave an overview of the request for façade and landscape changes for the new computer firm.

Commissioner Tobias inquired if new signs were being proposed as part of the project.

Planner Clarke responded that signs would be submitted but were not part of the proposal at this time.

Commissioner Tobias inquired about the zoning of the property and confirmed that the use was permitted.

Commissioner Vavoulis asked if rear renderings had been prepared.

Planner Clarke responded that renderings were only done for the front of the building.

Commissioner Hoopes commented on the excellent quality of the color/material board.

The Commission appreciated the quality of the submittal and the applicant's efforts.

M/S/C Hoopes/Tobias to approve the project as submitted. Unanimous 4-0.

Abeer Sweis – applicant – stated that project changes might be proposed in the future, including removal of 2 trees.

Planner Gjolme responded that minor changes could be approved by staff, but removal of trees would have to be brought back to the Commission for review.

B. Design Review 14-01; VSC Smoke; 711 Foothill Blvd. #100; new wall sign.

Planner Gjolme gave an overview of the request, which involved new signage composed of reverse channel letters and smaller pin-mounted copy. Given the diversity of the sign's components and character of the center, approval was recommended.

Commissioner Hoopes inquired about the possibility of widening the stroke width for the "VSC" copy per staff's suggestion.

Darren Fine – applicant – noted that widening could compromise the style of the letters.

Commissioner Tobias was concerned with the term "smoke". He preferred the copy color to be reversed in order to reduce the impact/brightness of the "Smoke" copy.

Director Stanley noted that content cannot be regulated if appropriate to the use and not obscene, etc.

Planner Gjolme did not see an issue with flipping the colors if the applicant was amenable to it.

M/S/C Tobias/Hoopes to approve the sign with the primary copy colors reversed; "VSC" to be in sunflower and "Smoke" in burgundy. 2-1-1. No – Vavoulis. Abstain – Moldafsky.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

X. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Tobias commented on the reader-board issue and thought that there may be a shift in opinion about the Variance process and its application in allowing reader-boards on select properties.

A brief discussion ensued.

XI. COMMENTS FROM STAFF:

Planner Gjolme noted the "VSC Smoke" sign and how it illustrated the entire process from submittal to approval and the revisions along the way, often significant, that the Commission does not necessarily see.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 a.m.