

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON MARCH 2, 2017**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.
- II. ROLL:** Also present were Vice Chairman Hoopes and Commissioners King, Balcazar, and Fuelling.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were none.
- V. CONSENT CALENDAR:** There were no items.
- VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- A. Design Review 16-18;** La Canada Imports; 1537 Foothill Blvd.; final review of a new monument sign.

Planner Gjolme gave a presentation in accordance with the staff report. He explained that the Planning Commission endorsed Design Option 1. He said that the applicant is back before the Design Commission to discuss incorporation of the business logo into their sign request. They are proposing to place a pizza icon into the La Canada Imports sign copy.

Mr. Gjolme explained that there are three design options for the Commission to consider and that staff devised one of the design options. He said that positive findings can be made and that the Variance request was vetted at the last Planning Commission meeting. The applicant prefers Option two or three.

Chairman Moldafsky opened the public hearing.

Sign contractor, Arby Manukian, spoke. He handed out an additional design option to the Commission that contained brown and yellow colors that are similar to design Option three. He said that the sign will consist of painted acrylic on metal. He showed the Commission the thickness of the letters.

Commissioner Fuelling asked why the brown and yellow colors were chosen. Mr. Manukian said that the client likes the colors.

Commissioner Balcazar said that she preferred design Option 3. She did not find the applicant's new design request to be as refined. She felt that the lines above the pizza were awkward.

Vice Chairman Hoopes agreed with Commissioner Balcazar. He did feel that the signs are an improvement compared to the sign that was removed. He said he could make positive findings on all design Options presented. He believed that the two lines above the pizza are distracting. He felt that the restaurant is an asset to the community. He preferred design Option 3 that staff devised.

Commissioner Fuelling agreed with Commissioner Balcazar that the applicant's design option was out of character with the building.

Commissioner King said that she agreed with all comments and indicated that she liked design Option 3. She felt that it blended well and would provide a refined look for the prominent street corner. She agreed that the two lines above the pizza did not add much to the design. She said that design Option 3 shows that the restaurant is a takeout business.

Chairman Moldafsky said that he felt that all design options were acceptable, but that he preferred design Option 3.

Mr. Gjolme said that the brown color of design Option 2 is a little strong and blend into the base, distracting from the sign copy. He felt that the brown-colored submittals that were provided at the meeting by the applicant were too strong and did not blend well with the building.

Vice Chairman Hoopes said that dark sign colors are harder to read at night.

Applicant, owner, Bill Kerimo, agreed with design Option 3 and said that he liked the logo.

Vice Chairman Hoopes said that he was comfortable with staff making the final call on the signs colors.

Vice Chairman Hoopes asked staff what the background sign color was.

Mr. Gjolme indicated, Beige.

Commissioner King said that she believed the landscaping near the sign should also be addressed.

Chairman Moldafsky suggested that the landscaping, if to be installed, also be subject to staff approval.

M/S/C - Balcazar/King to approve staff design Option 3, and that staff approve the colors as well as the landscaped area. Approved 5-0.

B. Design Review 17-03; CorePower Yoga; 965-B Foothill Blvd.: new wall signs and vinyl window signs.

Mr. Gjolme gave a presentation in accordance with the staff report. He said that a master sign program was approved for the Town Center several years ago. He explained that the previous sign approved at the location had reverse channel letters. The proposal has standard channel letters but are well below. Staff does like the logo.

Mr. Gjolme explained that positive findings can be made. Sign decals on the windows are exempted from review but their placement on the windows can be considered. Though staff recommended approval, he felt that the decals on the window to the west of the entry were a little close together and excessive. He believed that they should be eliminated. Decals on the doors are acceptable, but would need to be lowered to be exempted.

Commissioner King asked if there were color samples.

Mr. Gjolme said, "yes."

Vice Chairman Hoopes said that moving the decals down would not be aesthetically correct.

Mr. Gjolme explained that moving them down would meet code.

Commissioner Balcazar pointed out that when a person is driving by in a car, they are viewing from a different perspective. The decals would be viewed from Foothill Boulevard.

Applicant, Terri Dickerhoff, agreed with the Commissioners comments.

Commissioner Fuelling asked if the lettering would be vinyl.

Ms. Dickerhoff said that she did not feel it would be detrimental to remove the small bullseye logos from the windows.

The Commissioners said that decals were needed for the large windows along Foothill Boulevard and that the colors work well with the building.

Mr. Gjolme recommended removing the condition of approval relating to the CUP for Caterpillar Kids, the business that occupied the location in the past.

M/S/C - Balcazar/King to approve the signage as submitted. Approved 5-0.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS: There were none.

IX. COMMENTS FROM STAFF: Mr. Gjolme informed the Commission that the digital sign at the 76 Station off Angeles Crest Highway was corrected, though, there are still some colors that need to be changed. Commissioner Fuelling asked Mr. Gjolme about the banner that has been placed at Stepping Stones, on the St. George's site. Mr. Gjolme explained that banners can be used for two weeks within a six-week period and that he believes that that time has been exceeded.

X. ADJOURNMENT: M/S/C – Hoopes/Balcazar to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 a.m. Approved 5-0.