

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON APRIL 1, 2010**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Vavoulis called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. ROLL:** Present were Commissioners Friedmann, Hoopes and Roberts, Planners Gjolme and Clarke and Director of Community Development Stanley. Commissioner Tobias was absent.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were no comments.
- V. CONSENT CALENDAR:**
A. Minutes – February 18, 2010 and March 18, 2010 DC Meetings. The minutes were approved unanimously with changes to the February 18th minutes.
- VI. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None
- VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
A. Design Review 10-05; Wells Fargo; 555 Foothill Blvd.; replace existing drive-thru window with new ATM machine.

Planner Clarke gave an overview of the request, which involved conversion of an existing drive-thru window into a new ATM along the north side of the building.

Commissioner Friedmann confirmed that the ATM sign colors would match the primary signage colors approved by the Commission at the previous meeting.

Applicant Bob Superneau was aware that modified colors were required and confirmed that they would be provided.

M/S/C Roberts/Friedmann to approve the request as submitted with a condition to verify coordination of the ATM and primary sign colors. Unanimous 4-0.

B. Design Review 10-03; Jiffy Lube; 2304 Foothill Blvd.; new wall signs, refurbished monument sign, exterior building colors and restored landscaping.

Planner Gjolme gave an overview of the request in accord with the PowerPoint presentation, which involved refurbishment of an existing monument sign, two new wall signs, after-the-fact approval of unauthorized building colors and restored landscaping.

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Commissioner Roberts stated that he had no issues with the signs.

Commissioner Hoopes agreed and thought the signs were attractive and well done.

Commissioner Roberts noted the amount of work and discussion involved with the original approval of the building and the Commission's attention to a very neutral color palette to ensure the building's architectural longevity. He did not care for the new color scheme since the signage should be the building's primary identification, not its colors.

Commissioner Hoopes recalled difficulty with pinning down the original building colors, but noted that even though the new palette changes the nature of the building, he could support the color change.

Chairman Vavoulis inquired if changing the color of the cornices, which are currently burgundy, would be an adequate solution.

Commissioner Roberts stated that the eye immediately goes to the white and attention is now drawn to the building, not the signage.

Commissioner Friedmann was also concerned with the change to white facades given the history of building's approval. He preferred to see the original colors restored.

Commissioner Hoopes suggested planting more trees to stealth the building as an alternative.

Planner Gjolme confirmed that utilization of the wainscot's tan color for the facades would be acceptable.

Applicant Dennis Stout - Coast Signs - explained that this location employed a very clean and conservative color palette when compared to other Jiffy Lubes undergoing similar upgrades. He confirmed that the sign package could be approved independent of the building color issue.

Commissioner Friedmann confirmed that the field color for the wall sign's "JL" logo could remain white in order to appropriately contrast with the building's eventual wall color as determined by the Commission.

M/S/C Hoopes/Friedmann to approve the signs as submitted. Unanimous.

Commissioner Friedmann mentioned that changing the white to a tan color may not be necessary and perhaps a compromise on the color may be appropriate in

order to preserve the distinction of the lower wainscot, which he felt breaks up the massing of the building.

Commissioner Hoopes noted that tables and umbrellas along the east side of the building were part of the original approval and had long ago been removed.

Planner Gjolme noted the possible lack of a nexus to require restoration of the tables and umbrellas since permits are not required for such items.

Commissioner Roberts also remembered the original approval and noted the need for umbrellas to soften the east elevation. He believed a nexus may exist since his original vote took the umbrellas into consideration.

Commissioner Hoopes again noted that new trees could compensate for removal of the umbrellas.

A brief discussion ensued as the Commission discussed appropriate colors for the building. M/S/C Roberts/Hoopes to approve the following color palette for the building:

Lower wainscot - DE6215 Wooden Peg

Walls - DE6214 Pigeon Gray

Cornices - DE6220 Porous Stone

Unanimous 4-0.

A brief discussion ensued as the Commission discussed the need for additional trees along the east side of the building.

M/S/C Hoopes/Friedmann to approve the landscaping with the addition of three 24"-box red leaf red bud trees equally spaced in new planter area along the east elevation. Unanimous 4-0.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS: Chairman Vavoulis inquired about possible changes to the City's Design Commission Ordinance that would be necessary to include color changes to buildings, outdoor furniture, etc. within the purview of the Commission. He also inquired about the legality of mobile signs attached to vehicles. He requested that the Design Commission Ordinance be emailed to the Commissioners for their review.

Commissioner Friedmann commented on new signs that had been installed at Dolce Mango and Jasmine's Salon without approval.

Planner Gjolme noted that enforcement action was already underway for the sign at Dolce Mango. Staff would investigate the sign at Jasmine's.

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- X. **COMMENTS FROM STAFF:** Director Stanley informed the Commission that Council budget hearings would begin in May. Commissioner requests could be discussed at the next meeting.

- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 a.m.