

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE  
HELD ON APRIL 17, 2014**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. ROLL:** Present were Commissioners Hoopes, Roberts, Tobias, Director of Community Development Stanley, Planners Gjolme and Clarke. Commissioner Vavoulis was absent.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were none.
- V. CONSENT CALENDAR:** Minutes – 4/3/2014 Design Commission meeting. Approved 3-0-1. Tobias – abstain.
- VI. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS:** There were none.
- VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
- VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**A. Design Review 14-05;** Taco Bell; 2151 Foothill Blvd.; Informal feedback on revised building design and colors.

Planner Gjolme gave an overview of the original and new proposals and explained this was an informal opportunity to provide feedback to the applicant before the case returns for formal review. He noted that a landscape plan is not complete at this time but would be provided as part of the resubmittal.

Commissioner Hoopes said that the extended gables on the towers were not shown correctly and would not work due to the location of the cornice. He asked if they were going to replace the tiles on the roof and felt a color and material board would be needed.

Planner Gjolme responded that the elevations at this point were conceptual and would be corrected as needed prior to formal review. A color/material board would be provided.

Commissioner Hoopes noted the darkness of the proposed color scheme.

Planner Gjolme responded that printed colors often vary from the actual colors proposed. Again, a color board would be required.

Commissioner Roberts noted that there was only so much that could be done to the existing building. He thought a wood trellis integrated into the patio area would be an improvement.

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Planner Gjolme mentioned the Ross building and its use of wood/trellis elements and stated that photos were sent to the applicant for reference.

Commissioner Roberts asked about the monument sign, play area and pedestrian area. He felt more effort and focus should be on the patio area to the west since Camphor trees on Foothill buffer the building to the south.

Chairman Moldafsky asked staff to remind the applicant that the Commission has input on the landscaping.

Commissioner Tobias referenced the Union 76 station and how a series of limited changes can significantly improve a project. He felt the same potential for improvement was evident with this project.

Commissioner Hoopes stated that cut sheets were needed for the new lighting.

Commissioner Roberts felt the project was moving in the right direction and that it would be an improvement for the entire City.

The Commission summarized their comments and direction which staff would relay to the applicant.

### **B. Discussion; 2014-2015 Budget requests.**

Director Stanley gave an overview of the Work Program and asked if there were any other items the Commission would like to be considered. He spoke about conferences, ordinances and consultants. (100 hours @ \$50 per hour).

Chairman Moldafsky spoke putting together a general aesthetics statement and asked if this needed research and support time. He needs a specific vision to follow and give to applicants. There is a significant interpretation now.

Commissioner Roberts suggested taking elements out of DVSP and embellishing them.

Chairman Moldafsky wanted it simplified for applicants and to have a handout.

Commissioner Roberts thought it had been watered down over time.

Director Stanley spoke about districts and possible design guidelines which could be broadened and made more specific.

Commissioner Roberts said that we tried it on a volunteer basis and we may need focused meetings. We need dedicated staff time and not a consultant.

Commissioner Hoopes spoke about examples provided to Edward Hitti.

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Chairman Moldafsky asked how that would help as guide for new Commissioners and applicants.

Commissioner Hoopes said there are two issues – creating a vision and getting help to implement it.

Director Stanley said we have part of it in the plan for the DVSP – streetscape guidelines in book. The other part is about the look of the buildings.

Commissioner Roberts said that the streetscape guide does not tell a developer if he has to provide improvements.

Director Stanley said bulb-outs are, in fact, called out in the DVSP.

Chairman Moldafsky said he was looking for something simple that can lead developers. He gave the example of Taco Bell. It could save applicant's time.

Commissioner Hoopes said the San Marino's guide had the necessary detail.

Director Stanley said he adapted it for La Canada Flintridge's residential design guidelines. Look at DVSP design guidelines and expand them, though outside help may be needed since he does not have draftsman on staff.

Commissioner Hoopes asked about 'build-outs' into the street and if owners were interested in doing it. He was excited about that idea.

Director Stanley gave example of Anthony's wanting to use parking spaces but it was not permitted. He showed photos of examples of 'parklets' in San Francisco.

Commissioner Tobias asked about legal issues and fairness of allowing one person to have public areas for free. It does not make sense to give up parking spaces. He gave an example of dry cleaners. He spoke about parking and traffic flow in the City. He has to deal with parking near the Proper, City Hall and Anthony's. He mentioned the parking study but what it is like to live here full time.

Director Stanley said there are things to be done but no major parking problems identified in the parking report. The idea was suggested by staff and supported by Commissioner Hoopes

Commissioner Hoopes gave examples in France and North Beach.

Commissioner Tobias said that La Cañada Flintridge was definitely not North Beach.

Commissioner Roberts spoke about an area by Target in Pasadena.

**IX. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Tobias asked about smoke from The Habit Restaurant. He has to roll up windows when driving by it. Most smoke occurs usually between 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Director Stanley said that the AQMD and County said they have the proper equipment. He will have B&S look at it.

Commissioner Hoopes spoke about fans and smokestacks. He spoke about sound walls for Caltrans. He designed the walls. He went to top of Sports Chalet and took photos and put them together and fashioned the wall after the panoramic view. Caltrans agreed to the design. The walls are in segments.

Director Stanley spoke about walls on the 5 freeway.

Chairman Moldafsky spoke about the design of the wall.

**X. COMMENTS FROM STAFF:** There were no comments.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:** M/S/C Tobias/Roberts to adjourn at 8:46 a.m. 4-0.