

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON MAY 6, 2010**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Vavoulis called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. **ROLL:** Chairman Vavoulis and Commissioners Tobias and Roberts with Commissioners Hoopes (7:02) and Friedman (7:04); Director of Community Development Stanley, consultant Cantrell and planners Gjolme and Clarke.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The flag salute was recited.
- IV. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were no comments.
- V. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - A. Minutes – April 15, 2010 DC Meeting. Approved 3-0.
 - B. Design Review 09-21; Panera Bread Bakery Café; 990 Foothill Blvd; final review of colors and materials. Approved 4-0.
- VI. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
 - A. **Design Review 10-04;** 1434 Foothill Blvd.; Zentmyer Properties; final review of a new 4,300 sq. ft. office/retail building.

Consultant Cantrell gave an update to the project.

Applicant Gary Zentmeyer spoke about changes made to the plans which are listed in the minutes from the last Commission meeting. The arches proposed would not have segmented curves; this is how the computer program renders an arch. Doors to the stores will swing in. The Public Works Department approved the planters and suggested asking the Commission for suggestions for plants and trees. He would have liked to have shown the proposed colors and materials of the building but he did not have time to assemble the materials.

Commissioner Friedman asked what applicant thought of the suggestions by Consultant Cantrell.

Applicant Zentmeyer said that he was not in support of that idea.

Commissioner Hoopes said that he liked the design shown and mentioned the cornice design of older buildings. He said that he is opposed to tile roofing over the façade element. The proposed building is trying to recreate a look of older buildings from early the 1900s. He accepted that construction drawings will illustrate a smooth arch with staff's confirmation needed prior to plan check. He liked the project as submitted.

Chair Vavoulis and Tobias agreed with Commissioner Hoopes.

Commissioner Freidman said that he does not need to see more details.

Commissioner Roberts was not sure what the exact details for the building would be. He wanted more details on the building which add character so that it's not just be a stucco box - more iron work, awnings and signage.

Applicant Zentmeyer said that it was a stuccoed building.

Director Stanley suggested that the Commission approve the project and allow the project to proceed, but that the applicant return with colors and further details at a later meeting.

Commissioner Roberts mentioned the charm of adjacent building and that the proposed building needed details to reflect that charm.

Chair Vavoulis said that there was consensus among Commission members and that they could review colors at a later date.

M/S/C Hoopes/Friedman to approve the project with the applicant to return with façade details, colors and materials for final approval at a later date. Vote: 4-0 - Commissioner Roberts abstained.

Commissioner Roberts identified a type of gingko as the tree to use as it works in other areas along Foothill Boulevard.

Chair Vavoulis suggested that Commissioner Roberts provide ideas and suggestions in an email for the project.

B. Design Review 10-09; 2261 Foothill Blvd.; Hello Pizza; new wall sign.

Planner Gjolme gave an overview of the proposal.

Chair Vavoulis asked about the size of Weight Watchers sign.

Planner Gjolme estimated that it was about 18" to 20" tall.

Applicant Brendan Tak gave his name and the address of the building.

Commissioner Tobias asked the applicant what the slogan meant.

Applicant Tak said that it was the company slogan and referred to the healthy aspect of the dough used for the pizzas.

Commissioner Hoopes said that he was concerned about the color shown and wanted to see the actual color. He said that the proposed sign color seems weak compared to other signs in the shopping center.

The applicant said that the actual color of the proposed sign matches the color shown on the business card. The green color used is dark and that it is easy to see as it contrasts with other signs in shopping center.

Commissioner Tobias asked the applicant if he considered having an edge of yellow to give more character to the sign.

Planner Gjolme thought that yellow would blend with the fascia and be inefficient.

Commissioner Roberts said that he was okay with the color as proposed.

M/S/C Hoopes/Tobias to approve the request- subject to the color of the sign matching the color shown on the submitted business card. Approved 5-0

VII. OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:

Motion to reopen minutes from April 15, 2010: Approved. Commissioner Hoopes identified a change for the 2nd paragraph on page 3 of the minutes - should be "Commissioner" and not "Missioner".

Planner Clarke asked for example of signs and contacts for companies that build them. Commissioner Hoopes spoke about need to follow-up on items before they get forgotten. He mentioned annual League of California Cities conference which was recommended by Director Stanley. He wanted the Commission to appoint a subcommittee for a bi-annual design award. Commissioners Tobias and Friedmann volunteered to be on the subcommittee. The subcommittee will bring back a plan to be discussed at the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Friedmann is not reapplying for the Commission but could serve as private resident. His last meeting will be in June.

Director Stanley spoke about Council consideration items and suggested the Commission members attend the Council budget meeting. They will be in held mornings during the month of June. Each item discussed by the Commission has been sent to the City Manager for consideration.

Commissioner Tobias suggested calling Council members individually and asking for consideration. Commissioner Tobias asked if Commission members needed to lobby for trips to the ICSC, sign and League of California conferences.

Director Stanley said the proposed awards were the part of a bigger budget item.

Commissioner Tobias asked if one commissioner wanted to take lead on attending Council meetings.

Director Stanley suggested that one or Commissioners more attend council meetings and that they should call Council members. He will send emails for dates and times of Council meetings to the Commission members.

Commissioner Hoopes will not be able to attend the first Commission meeting in June as he will be out of town.

Chair Vavoulis suggested emails to inform members of the dates of Council meetings.

Commissioner Roberts mentioned landscaping books and materials that he requested. The Commission should have examples of plants and trees to show with large photographs.

Commissioner Tobias said that we should have e-files with material available at meetings.

Commissioner Friedman said that the applicant for Flintridge Tailors contacted him to discuss the final sign design.

Planner Gjolme said that he had met with applicant and had gone over the proposal with him.

Commissioner Friedman said that the applicant was worried about the cost of the sign. He gave him three step-down options. He wanted to see the plan before fabrication to see if there could be improvements done to the sign if needed.

Planner Gjolme said that he saw a bid for the sign and that he will get reimbursement for almost ½ the cost.

Director Stanley discussed the reimbursement program and noted that up to \$2,000 can be awarded.

Commissioner Hoopes asked when the program was started and if there was a need to increase the amount of reimbursement available.

IX. COMMENTS FROM STAFF: There were no comments.

X. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 AM.