

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON MAY 15, 2014**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. **ROLL:** Present were Commissioners Hoopes, Roberts, Vavoulis, Director of Community Development Stanley, Planners Gjolme and Clarke and consulting architect Cantrell. Commissioner Tobias was absent.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were none.
- V. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** Minutes - 4/17/2014 Design Commission meeting. Approved 3-0.
- VI. **CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

A. Design Review 14-04; State Farm; 1111 Foothill Blvd.; new wall sign.

Planner Clarke gave an overview of the revisions to the proposed wall sign and noted that two options were available; red letters on a white panel, white letters on a red panel, with the panel made of composite material simulated to look like wood.

Commissioner Hoopes mentioned that the Commission had suggested a hanging sign with gooseneck lamps to add more character to the sign. He wondered why that concept was not pursued.

Applicant Dick Vossmeier responded that he tried to go along with the Commission's suggestion. The sign is no longer lit and consists of a simple composite panel that was still in accord with the State Farm logo. He preferred a red panel with white letters.

Commissioner Hoopes noted he was somewhat disappointed with the current submittal since it lacked 'village' character.

Chairman Moldafsky asked if there was a border around the sign or some way to better articulate it.

Sign designer Ed Latell noted that the sign has ¼" corner radiuses.

Commissioner Roberts noted that dropping the sign a tad below the bottom of the fascia would make it more car-friendly while increased corner radiuses would make it less rigid.

Mr. Latell felt dropping it reduced visibility and preferred it on the sign band as proposed.

Chairman Moldafsky felt a compromise could be found. He agreed with Commissioner Roberts about the corners and lowering the sign.

Commissioner Vavoulis summarized that softening the sign's corners and adding a white border would suffice in his opinion.

Commissioner Roberts stated a lozenge-shape sign with a white border on the fascia as proposed was not optimal, but it was acceptable all things considered.

Commissioner Hoopes felt an opportunity to improve an already charming building was being lost.

M/S/C Vavoulis/Roberts to approve a lozenge-shaped red panel sign with a white border and copy in the location as proposed. Approved 3-1. No - Commissioner Hoopes.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Design Review 14-07; FSHA; 440 St. Katherine Drive; exterior façade changes, lighting and ADA upgrades in conjunction with interior tenant improvements for the existing auditorium building.

Consulting architect Cantrell reviewed the proposal which consisted mainly of interior TI improvements for the auditorium with limited exterior changes to the building, ADA upgrades and landscaping revisions in conjunction with an equipment pad also proposed. He reviewed the changes to the respective elevations and noted the appropriateness of the changes and that the design integrity of the building would be retained.

Maureen Sullivan, Pica and Sullivan Architects, stated that a more ambitious project is coming in the future, but this is an interim improvement for the auditorium and a marked improvement of the existing building's interior use. She said that the exterior changes largely support the interior TI improvements

and that it was a self-contained project given the uncertainty with scheduling the larger project.

The Commission had no questions and appreciated the thoroughness of the submittal.

M/S/C Vavoulis/Hoopes to approve the project as submitted. 3-0-1. Abstain - Commissioner Roberts.

B. Design Review 11-12 (Amendment); Printsmith/Sossi; 837-839 Foothill Blvd.; additional exterior lighting fixtures.

Planner Clarke noted that the requested goosenecks lights had been previously approved but never installed. The amendment would simply reapprove the lights in accord with the previous approved project.

Commissioner Roberts confirmed that a matte black color was proposed for the lights.

M/S/C Hoopes/Vavoulis to approve the request as submitted. Approved 4-0.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS: None.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Hoopes mentioned that the freeway sound wall project was proceeding nicely.

Commissioner Roberts inquired about the scheduling of a joint meeting to discuss streetscape improvements.

Director Stanley responded that a future meeting would be scheduled, but a date was not yet determined.

X. COMMENTS FROM STAFF:

Planner Gjolme mentioned that Electronic Message Centers (EMC) would be discussed at the next City Council meeting and he urged the Commissioners to attend.

Director Stanley mentioned his attending the National APA conference and the potential implications that EMCs can have on existing non-digital billboards.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

M/S/C Roberts/Vavoulis to adjourn at 8:09 a.m. Unanimous 4-0.