

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE  
HELD ON JUNE 16, 2011**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairman Hoopes called the meeting to order at 7:32.
- II. ROLL:** Present were Commissioners Moldafsky, Tobias, Hoopes and Roberts, Director of Community Development Stanley, Planners Gjolme and Clarke. Chairman Vavoulis was absent
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None.
- V. CONSENT CALENDAR:**
- A. Minutes – May 5, 2011, May 19, 2011 and June 2, 2011 Meetings**
- May 5, 2011:  
Change on page three “from” and not “form”
- M/S/C Moldafsky/Roberts approved 3-0-1 (Tobias abstained)
- May 19, 2011:
- M/S/C Roberts/Moldafsky Approved 3-0-1 (Tobias abstained)
- June 2, 2011:
- Change on page five, last paragraph Commissioner Roberts voted “no” and Commissioner Tobias “ abstained”. Change to “approved 3-1-1”.
- Roberts/Moldafsky Approved 3-0-1 (Tobias abstained)
- VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
- A. Design Review 11-10; Prudential CA Realty; 827 Foothill Blvd.; new wall signs.**
- Planner Gjolme gave an overview of the two proposed wall signs, noting their simplicity yet effectiveness given the limited space available. Both signs were regarded as well scaled and attractive and approval was recommended accordingly.
- Gary Swanson (applicant) spoke about the circular logo included as part of the sign. Further compression of the logo to keep it within the narrow fascia may make it difficult to read.

Commissioner Tobias questioned if the text “California Realty” copy was too compressed horizontally.

Mr. Swanson said that the computer program that generated the rendering can make the graphic looked blurred but it wouldn't be a problem when actually constructed and installed. He felt that 14” letters as proposed were adequate.

Planner Gjolme agreed and thought the spacing combined with variable font size worked well given the limited area available.

Commissioner Tobias said it was a good example of using different font size and color to create a simple yet attractive sign.

M/S/C Tobias/Roberts to approve the sign as submitted. Unanimous 4-0.

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**A. Zone Change 11-02; Amendment to Section 11.47.020 - Design Review Applicability.**

Planner Gjolme said that the Commission discussed the draft code changes to expand Design Review applicability at the May 5, 2011 meeting. He noted that new language had been added to the proposed code change and sought confirmation from the Commission prior to forwarding the item to the Planning Commission for their review.

Commissioner Tobias felt that some sort of initial review of color changes was needed by staff or the Director in order to exempt projects that were tastefully done.

Planner Gjolme agreed and suggested the language “as determined by the Director of Community Development” as a safeguard to exempt minor color changes that weren't problematic.

Commissioner Roberts agreed that minor color changes should not be captured for review. However, he noted the Jiffy Lube project and the color changes to the building that were done without review. This was the type of project the Commission would want to review. He asked if awnings could be changed without review.

Planner Gjolme said that ‘awning change’ language was already in the code and that if visible from a public right-of-way, review by the Commission is required.

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Vice Chairman Hoopes noted that minor changes to the “shade” of a particular color should also be reviewed by staff and did not necessarily require Commission review.

Commissioner Tobias said that allowing the Director of Community Development to make a determination regarding the significance of a color change was acceptable.

Commissioner Roberts appreciated the inclusion of outdoor furniture as a component of review.

Planner Gjolme clarified that similar to awnings, only outdoor furniture visible from public right-of-ways would be included.

M/S/C Roberts/Moldafsky to recommend approval of the code changes as modified at the meeting. Approved 4-0.

**VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Roberts asked if future applicants could bring a sample of the existing colors as well as the proposed colors for a project.

Planner Gjolme responded that proposed colors are already required and that obtaining existing colors made sense and would be added to the application requirements.

Commissioner Roberts referenced the state of the trim painting for the Wells Fargo building and asked if it could be tied to the approval of the new signs.

Director Stanley responded that a clear nexus did not seem evident, but that the general upkeep of the building is required under the City’s property maintenance provisions.

Commissioner Roberts commented that two tulip trees planted in front of Ralph’s have not bloomed yet and may be dead, and asked if they could be replaced if needed.

Director Stanley said that Public Works will review the situation and that Ralph’s will be contacted if necessary.

Commissioner Tobias noted that a parking space behind TJ Maxx was being used to store an oil drum.

Director Stanley responded that code enforcement will investigate the issue.

**IX. COMMENTS FROM STAFF:**

Director Stanley stated that the circular Prudential logo just approved may not be allowed to extend above the parapet. Code may require it to be lowered slightly.

Commissioner Hoopes added that if the logo did in fact need to be lowered, dropping it slightly below the edge of the fascia and aligning it at the top would be the preferable configuration.

**X. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:59.