

## DESIGN COMMISSION MINUTES

July 2, 2015 meeting

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.
- II. **ROLL:** also present were Commissioners Balcazar, Hoopes, King and Roberts.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** the Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. **SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR** (if all members are present)  
  
M/S/C Hoopes/Roberts to reappoint Chairman Moldafsky. Unanimous 5-0.  
M/S/C King/Roberts to reappoint Vice-Chair Hoopes. Unanimous 5-0.
- V. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** there were none.
- VI. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** Minutes: 6-4-2015 DC Meeting. Approved as submitted. Unanimous 5-0.
- VII. **CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS:** there were none.
- VIII. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
  - A. **Design Review 15-07;** Flintridge Bookstore and Coffeehouse; 1010 Foothill Blvd.; new USPS wall sign.

Consultant Cantrell gave an overview of building's approval and previously approved sign package. The existing satellite post office requires an exterior sign as currently proposed. A Variance to install an additional wall sign has already received Planning Commission approval. One small tree would be removed to allow for visibility from Chevy Chase Drive. The sign's 8-foot length is a bit tight for the proposed location and would be equal to the length of the main wall signs, so it makes sense to make sign subordinate by limiting its length to 7 feet and requiring a proportionate reduction to height. A flat finish would be required as usual. The plastic sample provided for review would actually be metal.

Commissioner Roberts confirmed that one small birch tree would need to be removed.

Commissioner Hoopes asked to what degree is the Commission bound by government requirements/specifications for the sign.

Peter Wannier - business owner - responded that the United States post office has certain patents on sign color and design and the sign before the Commission is a standard requirement.

Chairman Moldafsky confirmed that the size of the sign can be reduced.

Mr. Wannier noted that a slightly smaller 2'-5" x 7' sign is available and he was amenable to the change.

Commissioner Balcazar asked if the only sizes available for the sign were those called out in the attached plans.

This was also confirmed by Mr. Wannier.

Commissioner Hoopes noted that the sign's location was way down the street near the end of the building. He was ok with the revised sign size and noted that the color/design of the sign was out of the Commission's hands to a degree given the governmental requirements.

Commissioner King asked if there was other landscaping to compensate for removal of the birch tree.

Mr. Wannier confirmed that other existing plantings around the tree would be retained.

Commissioner Hoopes confirmed that only one of the two trees in the planter fronting the sign's location would be removed to accommodate the new sign.

Commissioner Roberts added that the tree could be replaced with a 15-gallon privet hedge.

Chairman Moldafsky confirmed that the post office hours and bookstore hours were the same.

M/S/C Hoopes/King to approve the sign reduced in size to the 7' option with installation of a 15-gallon ligustrum privet hedge to compensate for removal of one birch tree. Approved unanimously 5-0.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS:** there was none.

**X. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Balcazar commented that the raised metal arrow on the monument/directional sign at Hello Pizza had been painted red.

Planner Gjolme noted the issue and responded that staff would look into it.

Chairman Moldafsky asked about pole signs in the City and what could be done to abate them; he referenced the Terzian Law Firm sign as an example.

Commissioner Roberts responded that the issue had been explored in the past with the old Valley Sun signs but the property owner had no interest in removing the sign.

Planner Gjolme added the sign is considered legal non-conforming and may be retained for use.

Pat Anderson - representing the Chamber of Commerce - commented that the Mayor has asked her to contact the property owner(s) about the Terzian pole sign in hopes of a solution.

Commissioner Hoopes stated that the budget item for Commissioners to attend the Long Beach design conference had been approved by the City Council, with a requirement to identify the Commissioners that would be attending.

**XI. COMMENTS FROM STAFF:** there were no comments.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:** M/S/C/ Hoopes/Roberts to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 am. Unanimous 5-0.