

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON AUGUST 9, 2012**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. **ROLL:** Present were Commissioners Hoopes, Tobias, Vavoulis and Planner Gjolme. Commissioner Roberts arrived at 7:39 a.m.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were no comments.
- V. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
 - A. Minutes – July 12 and July 26, 2012 meetings. The July 12th minutes were not distributed and were continued accordingly. The July 26th minutes were approved.
- VI. **CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS:**
 - A. **Design Review 12-05;** The Habit Burger Grill; 990 Town Center Drive; new signage, awnings, building colors and outdoor dining furniture.

Planner Gjolme briefly outlined the request and noted that new building colors and the size of a proposed trellis on the west side of the tower were outstanding items that needed discussion and confirmation. He noted that Christopher Wadleigh and Matt Traino representing “The Habit” and IDS were in attendance to answer specific questions.

The Commission discussed the project at length and determined that the signs and awnings were appropriate as proposed. They preferred to review proposed outdoor furniture for “The Habit” in conjunction with furniture proposed for the remainder of the Town Center. Building colors were conceptually acceptable subject to field verification. Both wall signs were favorably regarded in terms of location and design.

Discussion ensued concerning the elimination of the wall sign on the west side of the tower. The Commission clarified that it was never their intention to have it removed, but rather to preclude the installation of signs along the west side of the remainder of the building to the north. They confirmed the need for a sign on the west side of the tower given its size and height and the fact that it stands apart from the rest of the building.

Planner Gjolme explained that an administrative process might be available to reinstate the sign, but further review by the Planning Commission could also be required. He would explore the issue further. The Commission was hopeful for a timely resolution.

M/S/C Tobias/Hoopes to approve the signs, awnings and wall colors submitted subject to: 1) concept approval of new wall colors subject to field verification by the Commission at a later date; 2) matte finish to be used on the sign letter faces; 3) metal door borders to match the color of the existing dark window mullions; 4) allowance for a wall sign and new awning along the west side of the tower matching the awning and sign on the south side of said tower. Unanimous 5-0.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS: There were no new public hearings.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Roberts noted the changes to IDS's landscape plan from concept to final submission and how thorough review by the Commission was critical.

The Commission expressed the need for a checklist in order to better itemize and identify the collective scope of a project, in particular larger projects such as The Town Center or Vons.

Staff agreed that this was a good idea and would work on developing the check list.

X COMMENTS FROM STAFF:

Planner Gjolme commented that the City Council discussed the possibility of allowing electronic reader boards and directed staff to provide additional information to aid in deciding whether a code change was appropriate.

Commissioner Tobias affirmed the sensitivity of this issue and felt strongly that the Commission should follow its progression.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 a.m.