

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2012**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. ROLL:** Present were Commissioners Hoopes, Tobias, Vavoulis, Director of Community Development Stanley, Senior Planner Buss, Planners Gjolme and Clarke. Chairman Moldafsky was absent.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were no public comments offered.
- V. CONSENT CALENDAR:**
- A.** Minutes - September 6, 2012 Meeting M/S/C Hoopes/Vavoulis to approve the minutes as submitted. Unanimous 4-0.
- B.** Design Review 10-04; Zentmyer Building; 1434 Foothill Blvd.; confirmation of landscaping for new office/retail building.

Planner Gjolme gave an overview of what he said at the last meeting.

Commissioner Roberts asked about tree issues with Public Works and if they were shown on the plan.

Senior Planner Buss did not have resolution of the tree issue with Public Works.

Gary Zentmyer (applicant) said that the issues were resolved.

Robert Curley (landscape architect) gave a brief overview of the plan.

Commissioner Roberts asked about the tie-in between planting street trees with site changes. He was comfortable with approving plan as submitted with clarification from Public Works about type of street tree.

Commissioner Vavoulis wanted to make clear to Public Works what tree is wanted.

Senior Planner Buss said that tree types are a policy issue.

Commissioner Tobias asked about the types of trees and whether the applicant has to put in new trees.

Commissioner Hoopes asked about grasses that are planted.

Commissioner Roberts said they are not grasses but will remain green consistently.

M/S/C Vavoulis/Tobias to approve the landscape plan as submitted with a recommendation to Public Works to allow for installation of a Ginko tree in conjunction with project development. Approved 4-0.

VI. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Design Review 12-08; Avianti Jewelry Designs; 2137 Foothill Blvd.; new façade component and associated wall sign.

Commissioner Hoopes recused himself from the case.

Planner Gjolme gave a PowerPoint presentation for the proposed sign.

Commissioner Vavoulis asked how the two columns work at the front.

Mr. Babayan (Applicant) said they were formed aluminum panels attached to the wall.

Commissioner Tobias asked if molding was the same for all and how big the east return was.

Mr. Babayan said that it is like a crown molding - 4" separation for letters and 6" for border. The return on east side is 2' wide and 6-7' on west side.

Director Stanley asked about lighting for the sign and noted it will wash out.

Commissioner Tobias said that he would prefer soft white light.

Commissioner Roberts asked about the proposed colors of the sign.

Mr. Babayan said that the letters were oiled bronzed and that the border was gold.

Commissioner Vavoulis noted architecture issue, colors and lighting.

Commissioner Hoopes spoke as a member of the public. He had helped applicant with the proposal. They did not have a color wheel. He suggested a sub-committee be created for color selection. He answered technical questions regarding the sign.

Commissioner Vavoulis said that he was okay with architectural change, the proposed colors but could look at other colors and could permit a final color selection.

Commissioner Tobias thought architectural foam linking details together would make it look classier.

Commissioner Roberts asked what material it was supposed to look like. Foam mold could help define it better. This would be better than just painting lines.

Commissioner Hoopes wanted to show elegance.

M/S/C Tobias/Vavoulis to approve with half round trim on lower columns and top border of sign. Vote to approve 3-0.

B. Design Review 12-07; Yuki Yama Restaurant; 2236 Foothill Blvd.; after-the-fact approval of changes to primary wall color.

Planner Clarke outlined authorized changes to the building's primary wall color and recommended creation of a charcoal-colored base along the north and east elevations to tone down the overall appearance.

Ian and Joanne Lee - Father and daughter business owners - started the business 6 years ago and discussed options with a painting company. They thought yellow would be a nice contrast to the dark roof and planters. The building was in disrepair and needed to be repainted regardless of the color change.

Commissioner Roberts confirmed that the roof was not repainted.

Commissioner Vavoulis stated that the building was simply too yellow and something had to be done to tone it down.

The Commission concurred.

Commissioner Roberts noted that the current colors draw way too much attention to the back and side of the building, as opposed to the entrance.

Commissioner Vavoulis acknowledged that a solution was difficult given the building's angled form.

Commissioner Roberts felt that the parking lot and Foothill Blvd. sides could be a lighter tone. The east and back side of the building needed to be darker.

The Commission discussed color options and reviewed samples.

Commission consensus was that the existing building color cannot be compensated or adequately eased by altering/adding darker accent colors. A new color for the entire building was needed.

Ms. Lee noted the expense involved in repainting the building.

Director Stanley noted that the City's Façade Improvement Program will pay up to 50% of the cost, with a maximum amount of \$2,000.

Commissioner Vavoulis suggested forming a subcommittee to review alternate colors on site.

M/S/C Tobias/Vavoulis to approve an alternate color for the building to be chosen by a subcommittee consisting of Commissioners Roberts and Hoopes. Unanimous 4-0.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS: None

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:

Planner Clarke showed design review checklist to Commission members. Commissioner Roberts added architectural elements.

X COMMENTS FROM STAFF: There were no staff comments.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.