

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON APRIL 19, 2018**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairman Hoopes called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

II. ROLL:

Also present were Commissioners King and Balcazar. Commissioner Fuelling arrived at 7:32 a.m. and Chairman Moldafsky was absent

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Flag Salute was recited.

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR:

There were no items.

VI. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were none.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. **Design Review 17-15;** Target Corp.; 965 Town Center Drive: final review of signs, exterior colors and façade changes for new retail store.

Planner Gjolme gave a presentation in accordance with the staff report. He said that staff is in favor of what has been submitted. He recommended that final approval of the request be given.

Commissioner King asked for clarification on whether the nearby Shell gas station supports the landscaping proposed. Director Stanley said that the landscaping will be in the public right-of-way.

Commissioner Hoopes asked how often the landscaping in front of the proposed sign would be trimmed. Planner Gjolme said he was not sure.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Speaker, Target representative, John Dewes said that he was available for questions.

Commissioner Fuelling asked if Target was proposing white or red exterior signage on the wall. Mr. Dewes said that Target would be open to color suggestions from the Commission.

Commissioners King and Fuelling both agreed that Target had submitted a good sign proposal. Commissioner King was not in favor of the bullseye on the parking sign. She also stated that a condition requiring that the trees be maintained, be added.

Director Stanley said he would speak with Public Works about regular trimming of the trees and will recommend that shrubs be planted. He will talk to both Public Works and the City Manager about this.

Commissioner Balcazar agreed that the signage at the entrance to the structure should include the word, "Parking." She also said that the logo on top of the parking sign should be removed.

Commissioner Fuelling suggested that a taupe color be used for the parking sign as opposed to the existing white color. Commissioner Balcazar asked if grey might be used as well.

Commissioners Fuelling and Hoopes felt that red signage on the west facing wall would be better than white as white can be too stark.

Mr. Dewes proposed that the existing white colored "P" for parking be retained but painted with a reflectant white paint. Commissioner Hoopes suggested that a cream color be used. Mr. Dewes said that a reflectant cream color paint could be used.

Vice Chairman Hoopes said that he believed the applicant chose the colors well.

The Commissioners further discussed the proposed white signage on the west-facing wall.

The Commission discussed whether a bullseye should be placed on the parking sign or not and also about the colors of the sign. Vice Chairman Hoopes said he preferred red. Commissioner Fuelling agreed that white might be stark.

M/S/C - Fuelling/Balcazar – to approve the final sign request, exterior colors and façade changes. Approved 4-0.

B. Design Review 18-03; Flintridge Preparatory School; 4543 Crown Avenue: final review of façade and rooftop changes and exterior remodeling to the Norris Auditorium Building.

Commissioner King recused herself.

Planner Gjolme gave a presentation in accordance with the staff report. He explained that staff is in support of the project and recommended approval. Staff did not expect there to be any off-site impacts resulting from the request.

The Public Hearing was opened.

John Dale, project architect, showed a material board to the Commission. He said he was working to make sure the design blends and that the change was subtle. The concrete frame and existing vines will be adjusted. The glazing will not have exterior mullions. He also showed photos of landscape images for the interior of the campus.

Vice Chairman Hoopes asked how the changes would look to one driving down Crown Avenue.

Mr. Dale explained that the changes will be a bit hard to see with the Deodar tree blocking the view.

Mr. Dale showed the Commission the metal mechanical screen.

The Public Hearing was closed.

M/S/C – Balcazar/Fuelling to approve. Approved 3-0.

Commissioner King returned to the meeting.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. **Substantial Conformance Determination;** Design Review 17-13; Kidz Planet; 711 Foothill Blvd. Unit J: request to use internally-illuminated letters for a previously approved wall sign.

Planner Gjolme explained the proposal. The landlord of the property is requiring that all signage contain internally illuminated letters which would be slightly larger in depth to accommodate the illumination. Planner Gjolme sought to get endorsement from the Commission of the change.

Commissioner Fuelling said that he would like to see different colors, like possibly blue as there are a lot of red elements in the center. Planner Gjolme explained that the applicant is amenable to that.

Commissioner Balcazar asked if the returns would be black or white. Planner Gjolme said they will be black. He believed these would be best and he recalled from past Commission meetings that was what the Commission preferred. He explained that the applicant is amenable to that, also.

Vice Chairman Hoopes believed that if the Commission agreed with a change to the original approval that would set a precedence.

Planner Gjolme informed the Commission that staff can make a determination for color changes.

Commissioner Balcazar and Fuelling discussed allowing for “Kids” to have a different color from “Planet”. Planner Gjolme said he did not believe the applicant would have any issues with that.

Vice Chairman Hoopes said staff should have the authority to approve colors.

Commissioner Balcazar said she liked all the letters to be different. Planner Gjolme stated that the applicant should be amenable to that.

Commissioner Fuelling suggested going back to the original proposal now that the signage will be internally illuminated. Vice Chairman Hoopes said he would need to see the colors.

Commissioner Fuelling suggested working with staff to come up with a color scheme that could be brought to the next meeting.

Vice Chairman Hoopes asked if a subcommittee should be formed to review the colors in the field. Planner Gjolme said he understood what the Commission was looking for. He recommended bringing it back to the Commission for conformance and that he did not believe a subcommittee was necessary.

M/S/C - King/Fuelling to bring the item back to the Commission. Approved 4-0.

B Discussion: 2018-2019 Budget requests.

Director Stanley discussed the budget requests that will be made to the City Council. Vice Chairman Hoopes suggested a conference in Las Vegas for the International Conference of Shopping Centers (ICSC). Director Stanley said that if a conference is held in California, the Commissioners are allowed to go, but not to out-of-state conferences, unless the City Council authorizes it. Vice Chairman Hoopes explained that the ICSC conference is good because other cities, developers, sign manufacturers, and light standard manufacturers are in attendance.

Vice Chairman Hoopes said that a landscaping conference is typically held in Long Beach. He also mentioned that the requirements for street trees might be addressed at this time with a new Public Works Director coming on board.

The Commission and staff also discussed putting together a field trip to review Foothill Boulevard and the signs that have been approved there. The field trip would need to be agendized and open to the public to attend. An itinerary of places to stop at would be made and would be part of the agenda. The intent of the field

trip would be to look to see what could be improved, completed projects, issues, etc.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Balcazar suggested that the mosaic sound wall where the anti-graffiti coating is peeling off should be reported to Public Works to handle.

Commissioner King said that the signage replaced at Ocean View and Foothill Boulevards is very good. She also asked about the status of Proper. Director Stanley said that staff can contact the leasing agent to find out.

The Commission congratulated Director Stanley on all his work done for the City and the community as he is retiring at the end of the month.

Director Stanley complimented the Commission for their dedicated work on improving the boulevard. He advised that the Commission communicate more with the City Council.

Commissioner Fuelling asked for an update on the Shell gas station. Planner Gjolme said that staff will be bringing the item back to the Commission for review of the canopy and signage.

X. COMMENTS FROM STAFF:

Planner Gjolme said that Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy will be coming to the Commission at the next meeting. It is a small item, but a larger review will be coming before them soon.

Director Stanley said that the sewer issue at the new Starbucks on Foothill Boulevard, at the past location of El Pollo Loco has been resolved.

Planner Gjolme said that the new El Pollo Loco location on Verdugo Blvd. would be going into plan check soon.

Hill Street was discussed. Planner Gjolme said he would work with the owner to see what is left to be completed.

The new City Hall location was discussed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: M/S/C – Fuelling/Balcazar to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 a.m.