

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DESIGN COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE  
HELD ON NOVEMBER 15, 2018**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moldafsky called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m.
- II. **ROLL:** Also present were Vice Chairman Hoopes and Commissioner Balcazar and Fuelling. Commissioner King arrived at 7:34 a.m.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Flag Salute was recited.
- IV. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were none.
- V. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
- VI. **CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:** There were none.
- VII. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

A. **DR 01-01 (Amendment);** St. Bede the Venerable Catholic Church; 215 Foothill Blvd.: final approval-signage. M/S/C Hoopes/Balcazar to approve the Amendment. Approved 5-0.

A. **Development-2018-0007 (Design Review) / Development-2018-0006 (Tree Removal);** Caltech Employees Federal Credit Union; 528 Foothill Blvd.: walled enclosure for new generator and associated removal of two crape myrtle trees.

Planner Gjolme gave a presentation in accordance with the staff memo.

Commissioner Fuelling asked about the dimension of the enclosure. Planner Gjolme provided the dimensions. No parking spaces will be removed.

Commissioner Balcazar asked if the light bollard is proposed to be removed. Planner Gjolme said that the applicant will provide that information.

Commissioner Balcazar asked about possible changes to the existing landscaping. Planner Gjolme said that pea gravel will be installed in a small strip fronting the wall.

Vice Chairman Hoopes brought up an example of a location in Pasadena he has seen where there is a type of Fichus that completely covers the building. Perhaps the same type of plant could be planted to cover the proposed walled enclosure. A few could be planted to achieve this. Planner Gjolme explained that only a six-inch strip is proposed in front of the walled enclosure. Ivy might be more feasible to plant. There is only a six-inch strip proposed in which pea gravel will be placed.

Vice Chairman Hoopes said he saw a type of herb or Rosemary existing on the side of the building that could possibly be planted in the new proposed strip to form a hedge. This could soften the area. Chairman Moldafsky suggested that this could be made as more of a recommendation than a requirement. Planner Gjolme said that more clarity would need to be given if this is a requirement.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Speaker, John Barnfather, project manager, said that he is opting for hard landscaping in front of the walled enclosure. He explained that there will be conduit possibly placed in the area to be used for future charging stations and that placing irrigation in the area might not be prudent given the future plans. There are other locations on the site where there is existing pea gravel. Vice Chairman Hoopes agreed that this might not be prudent.

Chairman Moldafsky asked if there are any current charging stations on the site. Mr. Barnfather said, “no.”

The Commission discussed the visibility of the proposal on the site and to the public. Mr. Barnfather said that employees would be the only ones to view it as the parking area near the proposed location is employee parking area. He clarified for Chairman Moldafsky that the parking spaces will have wheel stops placed on the ground.

Commissioner Fuelling asked why the generator is being installed. Mr. Barnfather said the idea is for the new gas generator to be cleaner than a diesel generator would be. He explained that the caps placed on the enclosure are going to match the caps that currently exist on the remainder of the building.

Vice Chairman Hoopes asked if the original architect on this project will be involved with this proposal. Mr. Barnfather said, “no,” but that the architect that designed the newer building on Foothill Boulevard to the west is involved with the proposal.

Vice Chairman Hoopes felt that the landscaping in the parking lot is very good and wishes that it stays that way. He understood that generally only the employees that park in the lot will be able to view the proposed enclosure and pea gravel. Mr. Barnfather agreed that the appearance of the parking lot, landscaping and building are important, and he believes that the proposal will not negatively stand out.

The Commission and Mr. Barnfather discussed the fact that he prefers to contribute to the tree fund as there is no ideal place to put a replacement tree on the subject site.

The Commission and Mr. Barnfather reviewed the plans as it relates to size.

The Public Hearing was closed.

Commissioner Fuelling said he felt that all possible issues had been mitigated.

Vice Chairman Hoopes and Commissioner Balcazar agreed and said they had no additional comments.

Commissioner King said that Cal-Tech has always done a good job of designing and caring for both of their properties in the City.

M/S/C - King/Balcazar to approve as submitted. Approved 5-0.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:** There was none.

**IX. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS**

The Commission discussed how the letters at the Shell Gas Station located on Angeles Crest Highway are bright white. It was their impression that the prices would be gray. The trellis structure has been painted white and the face of the numbers are difficult to read especially during the daytime. Planner Gjolme indicated that he is not aware of any permits being pulled for the work. Code Enforcement is taking action on the existing temporary signage violations.

**X. COMMENTS FROM STAFF**

Planner Gjolme spoke about Starr Cleaners and that Code Enforcement is looking into the neon signage. Also, the location once occupied by Ejis Florist is likely to be assigned to the City Prosecutor.

Planner Gjolme indicated that Flintridge Preparatory School could be brought to the Design Commission on December 20, 2018 and would like to see if enough Commissioners will be available to make a quorum on that day. Vice Chairman Hoopes believed he may not be available.

Planner Gjolme said that the Cal Tech project reviewed today was the first project to go through the new City digital platform.

Chairman Moldafsky asked if an electronic agenda packet could be provided to the Commission from now on. The other Commissioners were receptive to this. Commissioner Balcazar said she preferred a hard copy.

Planner Gjolme explained that the City Hall move will take place in January or February 2019.

Planner Gjolme wished the Commissioners Happy Thanksgiving.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:** M/S/C Balcazar/Fuelling to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 a.m. Approved 5-0.