

Minutes of the Huntington Park Planning Commission meeting held on March 3, 2010.

Chairperson Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present: Commissioners Eddie Benitez, Rosa Perez, Eddie Carvajal, Avygail Sanchez, and Chairperson Veronica Lopez; Absent: None. Also present: Planning Manager Eric Garcia, Assistant Planner Joanna Cortez, and Recording Secretary Genny Ochoa.

Reorganization of the Planning Commission

Chairperson Lopez vacated her position of Planning Commission Chair. Vice Chair Perez called for nominations for Chairperson. Commissioner Lopez nominated Commissioner Sanchez for Chairperson, and the nomination was seconded by Commissioner Perez. The vote carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Benitez, Lopez, Carvajal, Sanchez, and Perez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Chairperson Sanchez called for nominations for Vice Chair. Commissioner Lopez nominated Commissioner Carvajal. Commissioner Benitez nominated Commissioner Perez. Chairperson Sanchez seconded the nomination for Commissioner Perez to serve as Vice Chair. The vote carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Benitez, Perez, Carvajal, Lopez, Sanchez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Lopez, seconded by Commissioner Benitez, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 17, 2010, as presented. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Benitez, Carvajal, Lopez, and Chairperson Sanchez; Noes: None; Absent: None; Abstain: Vice Chair Perez.

Public Appearances

None.

Continued Public Hearings

None.

Public Hearings

A. CASE NO. 1910-DP/CUP: Consideration of a request for a Development Permit and Conditional Use Permit by Sherrie Olson on behalf of 7-Eleven, Inc. to establish a convenience store with the off-sale of beer and wine within an existing commercial center located at 6224 Pacific Boulevard within the Downtown Specific Plan (DTSP) District A – Gateway Zone.

Assistant Planner Joanna Cortez reviewed the Administrative Report, which included the Municipal Code Requirements and Required Findings for a Development Permit and Conditional Use Permit, Administrative Comments and Analysis, and Recommendation. Ms. Cortez added that the applicant has proposed a security plan, which is subject to review and approval by the Planning Division and the Huntington Park Police Department. Ms. Cortez stated that based on the evidence presented, staff recommended the approval of Case No. 1910-DP/CUP, subject to Conditions No. 1-35 outlined in staff's Administrative Report.

Planning Manager Garcia reported that staff had received an unsigned letter of opposition to Case No. 1910-DP/CUP citing residents' concerns of exposure of alcohol sales to young children.

Chairperson Sanchez declared the public hearing open and called for those wishing to speak in favor of or against Case No. 1910-DP/CUP. Ms. Sherrie Olson (1030 N. Mountain Ave., Ontario, CA 91762), representing 7-Eleven, Inc., (7-Eleven) came forward to speak in favor of the request. Ms. Olson stated that 7-Eleven is promoting its "new image" of a friendly neighborhood market, deviating from the "alcohol outlet" which it has been known for in the past. Ms. Olson stated that 7-Eleven concurred with staff's recommended conditions, including the hours of alcohol sales, and requested that Case No. 1910-DP/CUP be approved.

Mr. Shawn Misra (7-Eleven, Inc., 330 E., Lambert, #200, Brea, CA) came forward to speak in favor of Case No. 1910-DP/CUP. Mr. Misra stated that 7-Eleven has a management program for new franchisees, which includes regular store visits to ensure compliance with the organization's high customer service standards as well as its new image. Mr. Misra added that 7-Eleven's state-of-the-art security system is a major component of its proposed security plan.

With no one else coming forward to speak for or against the Case No. 1910-DP/CUP, Chairperson Sanchez declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lopez, seconded by Commissioner Carvajal, to APPROVE CASE NO. 1910-DP/CUP, subject to Conditions No. 1-35 as outlined in staff's report. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Benitez, Perez, Carvajal, Lopez
Noes: Chairperson Sanchez; Absent: None.

New Business

None.

Information Items

Planning Manager Garcia reported that the City's Census Core Committee would be conducting "Census Count Out," a Census outreach event, on April 1, 2010 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Robert Keller Park.

Vice Chair Perez reported that the Honorable Mayor Raul R. Perez Memorial Scholarship Fund would award a scholarship to three (3) high school students this school year and thanked everyone who generously donated to the organization.

Planning Manager Garcia introduced Ms. Erica Frausto, Huntington Park Business Improvement Manager.

Subjects Presented by the Planning Commission

Vice Chair Perez requested to be excused from the regular meeting of March 17, 2010. Chairperson Sanchez excused Vice Chair Perez's absence on March 17, 2010 as requested.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Sanchez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Secretary