



MINUTES

CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 16, 2013
6:30 p.m.

Chairperson Herrera called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. Present: Commissioner Eddie Carvajal, Vice Chair Juan Anaya, Commissioner Eddie Benitez, and Chairperson Laura Herrera; Absent: Commissioner Veronica Lopez (declared unexcused by Chairperson Herrera). Also present: Senior Planner Albert Fontanez, City Attorney Alisha Patterson, and Recording Secretary Genny Ochoa.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Vice Chair Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Carvajal, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 18, 2013, as presented. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioner Carvajal, Vice Chair Anaya, Commissioner Benitez, and Chairperson Herrera; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Lopez.

Public Appearances

Huntington Park City Council Member Valentin Amezcua introduced himself to the Commission and inquired regarding Planning Commission Case No. 2013-12 CUP (Ace Recycling, 6069-6105 Maywood Avenue) and the concerns expressed by the public regarding the project at the City Council meeting of October 7, 2013.

Continued Public Hearings

None.

Public Hearings

A. CASE NO. 2013-13 ZOA – ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: A resolution recommending to the City Council the adoption of an ordinance amending Title 9, Chapter 3, Article 17 of the Huntington Park Municipal Code relating to publicly visible art.

Senior Planner Albert Fontanez reviewed staff's Administrative Report, which included the Required Findings for a Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Background and Analysis, and Recommendation. Mr. Fontanez stated that the City's Publicly Visible Art Program is administered by the Planning Division and the Parks and Recreation

Department. The Planning Division ensures that development projects comply with the program and reviews the artwork placement associated with development projects. The Parks and Recreation manages the program expenditures and the placement of artwork on public property, and the Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture (PARC) Commission reviews and approves the program expenditures and the placement of artwork on public property.

Mr. Fontanez stated that the proposed amendment would not change the responsibilities of the Planning Commission and that the Commission would continue to review the placement of publicly visible artwork associated with development projects. However, the proposed ordinance amendment would modify the responsibilities of the PARC Commission and expand the scope of expenditures. After reviewing the text changes, Mr. Fontanez added that the proposed amendment would accomplish the following:

- A. Transfer authority from PARC Commission to City Council to review the placement of publicly visible art not associated with development projects;
- B. Transfer authority from PARC Commission to City Council the approval of City Art Fund expenditures;
- C. Expand the scope of expenditures to include seasonal, portable and temporary artwork for art-related improvements.

Mr. Fontanez stated that “performing arts” was not included in the current ordinance and that the proposed amendment would give the Parks and Recreation Department the authority to recommend “expenditures on performing arts to include the type of performing arts considered and the costs of implementation.”

Mr. Fontanez added that it was anticipated that the proposed amendment would not have an adverse impact to public health, welfare and safety, and that staff recommended the approval of Case No. 2013-13 ZOA as presented by staff.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson Herrera declared the public hearing open and called for anyone wishing to speak for or against Case No. 2013-13 ZOA. Hearing no one, the public hearing was declared closed.

Motion by Commissioner Carvajal, seconded by Vice Chair Anaya, to APPROVE CASE NO. 2013-13 ZOA AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2013-13 recommending to the City Council the adoption of an ordinance amending Title 9 (Zoning), Chapter 3 (General Regulations), Article 17 (Publicly Visible Art) of the Huntington Park Municipal Code. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioner Carvajal, Vice Chair Anaya, Commissioner Benitez, and Chairperson Herrera; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Lopez.

New Business

None.

Information Items

Senior Planner Fontanez reported that Planning Commission Case No. 2013-12 CUP had been called for review by a City Council member for the purpose of reconsidering the project at a future Council meeting, tentatively November 18, 2013. Mr. Fontanez stated that the City Council will consider all the merits and facts presented to the Planning Commission and they will take action on whether to uphold, modify, or reverse the decision of the Planning Commission to approve Case No. 2013-12 CUP at the previous Commission meeting of September 18, 2013.

Staff Comments

None.

Planning Commission Comments

Chairperson Herrera thanked staff for the street repair in front of her residence.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Herrera adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Laura Herrera, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Albert G. Fontanez, Secretary