



AZUSA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

January 16, 2008
7:00 P.M.

NOTICE: *A copy of the following public hearing staff reports and Initial Studies, if applicable, for the Planning Commission projects will be available for review during regular working hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday - Thursday at the Planning Division and during regular hours of the Azusa City Library. Any questions regarding any agenda item may be answered by the Planning Division at (626) 812-5299. The Planning Commission Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. in the Azusa Civic Auditorium at 213 East Foothill Boulevard, Azusa, California.*

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dierking called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Dodson led the flag salute.

C. ROLL CALL

Members Present: RENTSCHLER, ALVA, DIERKING, DODSON, ROSALES.

Staff Present: Director of Economic and Community Development, Bruce Coleman; Assistant City Manager, Robert Person; Senior Planner, Susan Cole; BBK Attorney, Michael Torres; and Assistant Planner, Kim Pilmer.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of November 14, 2007

Motion by Commissioner Dodson to approve the November 14, 2007 Minutes.
Motion seconded by Commissioner Rosales, and the minutes were approved.

Minutes of December 12, 2007

The following revisions were requested: Commissioner Dodson stated that the roll call item indicated he was absent from that meeting when he was in fact present.

Commissioner Rosales stated that on page 4, after the beginning of *Commission Discussion*, the language should be revised to reflect the following statements he made at that meeting, "As a result of my observations during my visit to the Vulcan site on Dec. 11, with Commissioner Rentschler, and the photographs that I took and introduced into the record, as well as the research I did prior to the meeting, It was my conclusion that Vulcan is in compliance with a bad plan."

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Commissioner Dodson made a motion to approve the December 12, 2007 minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosales, and the minutes were approved as amended.

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No participation.

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

No items scheduled.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No unfinished business.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion regarding the formation of a subcommittee of the Planning Commission to review General Plan policies related to Economic Development- Chairman John Dierking.

Susan Cole, Senior Planner stated that the staff recommendation was that the Planning Commission review and consider the attached proposal drafted by Chairman John Dierking.

Commissioner Alva recommended that the proposed sub-committee of the Planning Commission be under the direction of the City Council.

Chairman Dierking opened the item up to discussion.

Commissioner Rentschler asked if Chairman Dierking's intention was for the committee to be under the direction of the Planning Commission or for it to be under the direction of the City Council.

Chairman Dierking stated that his intention was for the sub-committee to be under the direction of the Planning Commission. Commissioner Dierking stated that it was suggested that it would be overstepping the Planning Commission's boundaries to create a sub-committee of the City Council.

BBK Attorney, Michael Torres stated that that was correct, and that there is no clear authority for the Planning Commission to create its own sub-group. Mr. Torres stated that the General Plan does include a role for the Planning Commission to justify the creation of such a group, if the City Council would allow them to have such a role.

Chairman Dierking stated that he believed that Commissioner Dodson raised that issue before, and that he deleted that language, which was previously under *recommendations*.

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Commissioner Rosales stated that it was his understanding that recommendation made by the proposed sub-committee would be submitted to the City Council for consideration, similar to other sub-committees that have been created in the past. Commissioner Rosales stated that it was his understanding that this sub-committee would be reviewing economic possibilities within the city. Commissioner Rosales stated that it seems as though the city has taken an economic course that deals mainly with businesses that generate larger tax revenues, and that he believes a sub-committee would look at other types and possibilities of economic benefit to the city. Commissioner Rosales stated that he is in full concurrence with Chairman Dierking, and that the sub-committee is worth exploring.

Commissioner Alva motioned for the sub-committee of the Planning Commission to be under the direction of the City Council.

Chairman Dierking stated that it has been moved to recommend to the City Council; the creation of an Economic Development Sub-Committee to investigate and report on fostering the positive climate for economic development under the direction of the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Rosales clarified that the recommendation was to submit the proposal to the City Council.

The motion made by Commissioner Alva was seconded by Commissioner Rosales.

AYES: ALVA, DIERKING, ROSALES

NOES:

ABSTAIN: DODSON, RENTSCHLER

ABSENT:

Community Development Director, Bruce Coleman stated that he would like to clarify the action taken, and that he understood the action to be a determination by the Planning Commission to take the proposal to the City Council to see if the City Council would authorize the Planning Commission to form the proposed sub-committee.

Chairman Dierking stated that that was correct.

I. Reports and Communications:

1. League of California Cities '2008 Planners Institute and Mini Expo.

Senior Planner, Susan Cole stated that the Commissioner's packets included information about the '2008 Planner's Institute and Mini Expo which is held in Sacramento from March 26th to March 28th. Mrs. Cole stated that the City has funding to send one representative which would include air fare, hotel and meals as well as the registration for the Commissioner. Mrs. Cole stated that in the past the Commission would decide amongst themselves, which Commissioner would

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be sent. Mrs. Cole stated that more than one Commissioner may attend, but that only one Commissioner will be paid for by the city.

Commissioner Rentschler stated that she would be interested in attending the Planner's Institute and Mini Expo.

Chairman Dierking asked if there were any other Commissioner's interested in attending.

The Commission agreed that Commissioner Rentschler would attend the '2008 Planner's Institute and Mini Expo.

Commissioner Rentschler stated that it be a good idea to request that the City Council increase the budget to allow more of the Planning Commission to attend these types of events, and that it is important for the Commissioners to be as educated as possible.

Mr. Coleman stated that the city would pay for any DVDs that could be given to the other Commissioners.

Mr. Coleman stated that he believed staff still had some questions regarding the New Business Item, and asked if they could ask a few more questions.

Robert Person, Assistant City Manager stated that he wanted to make sure that the mechanics for getting the proposal to the City Council was discussed. Mr. Person stated that typically when an advisory body makes a recommendation, staff will take create an agenda report, which would be signed by the Chairman of the Planning Commission. Mr. Person asked if Mr. Dierking anticipated the sub-committee would convene before or after the regular Planning Commission meetings, or if it would be a separate meeting. Mr. Person stated that for staff and logistical purposes it would be preferable for the meeting to be held before of after the regularly scheduled Planning Commission meetings.

Chairman Dierking stated that holding meetings of the Planning Commission Sub-Committee before or after the regularly scheduled Planning Commission meetings would be fine.

Commissioner Rosales asked about a leaflet for UCLA extension classes.

Mrs. Cole stated that the leaflet was an informational item included in the Commissioner's packets in case any of the Commissioners were interested in attending.

Mr. Coleman stated that the UCLA extension classes are affordable training, and that the city would be glad to work with the Commissioners if any were interested in attending the classes.

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Commissioner Dodson stated that he was interested in attending the Planning Commissioner training session on Thursday March 6th . Mr. Dodson asked if the registration fee would be paid by the Commissioners.

Mr. Coleman stated that the city would fund the registration fee.

Commissioner Rentschler stated that she was interested in going on March 6th.

2. Community Development related items from the City Council meeting of January 7, 2008.

Mr. Coleman summarized the Community Development items from the City Council meeting which included the hearing for the Community Development Block Grant, and the allocation of funds. Mr. Coleman stated that the Council did a quick claim on the Dalton property located on the east side of Dalton, to transfer ownership from the City to the Redevelopment Agency. Mr. Coleman stated that the survey area process was started for the Redevelopment Plan Amendment, and that the City Council agreed to modify the traffic circle on Palm Drive based on concerns expressed by the Police Department.

Commissioner Rosales asked if there was anything Mr. Coleman could add about the Vulcan Mine.

Mr. Coleman stated that the Vulcan mine was discussed and that Vulcan expressed its desire for the city to consider a proposal to allow them to do mining on the westerly 80 acres and would propose to immediately undertake efforts to reclaim the areas on the eastern portion of the mine. Mr. Coleman stated that no application has been submitted, but the issue was raised by one of the Council members, who wanted to see if the Council would be open to discussing a reimbursement process.

Commissioner Rosales stated that there was an extensive memorandum from the city attorney relative to the mining vested rights versus the CUP rights.

Mr. Coleman stated that there was a memorandum from the city attorney defining what the mines vested rights are. Mr. Coleman stated that some of the items regarding Vulcan were closed session and that some were open session items.

Michael Torres, City Attorney stated that during last months review and adoption of the Vulcan review process, it came to light by the City's consultant Mr. Lilburn, that the Vulcan review is to occur on a bi-annual basis as opposed to an annual basis. The next review won't be required until '2009.

Commissioner Rosales asked about the Rosedale school site and the geological studies being conducted in response to the discovery of an earthquake fault.

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Mr. Coleman stated that they have met with the representatives of Rosedale and were informed that they are deep trenching and conducting the necessary research however, no final determination has been made at this point.

Commissioner Dodson stated that there were discussions during the Rosedale review process, and he believed that the determination at that time was that the faults were inactive.

J. Discussion Items From The Planning Commissioners:

Commissioner Dodson asked how revisions to the minutes are shown, and whether the original language is struck through, and if the revised minutes are posted on the website.

Susan Cole stated that she would check on how the City Council minutes are revised and posted, and that the same format will be used for the Planning Commission minutes.

Commissioner Dodson asked if the opening of the Costco in San Dimas has any effect on the Costco within the city.

Mr. Coleman stated that it might affect the Costco in Azusa, because the area to the east of Azusa was previously being served by Azusa's Costco, and now the service area will be reduced.

Commissioner Dodson asked if Costco's executives have indicated that they might move.

Mr. Coleman stated that they have not made any indication of leaving the city, but that the city might need to look at some opportunities for them to expand.

Commissioner Dodson asked about the Arrow Highway annexation area.

Mr. Coleman stated that a hearing with LAFCO was held on Wednesday, and the item was continued for a 90 day period so that further discussions with the property owner and review could take place. Mr. Coleman stated that they did not take action, and that they will have another hearing with them in 90 days.

Commissioner Alva stated that he was concerned about particulates from the Vulcan Mine, and asked if there was any type of information or report that would identify unhealthy or hazardous levels and sources of particulates within the city.

Chairman Dierking asked if the city is aware of the AQMD monitoring stations that monitor particulates in the local area.

Robert Person, Assistant City Manager stated that the city is aware of the monitoring stations, and that the stations issue reports on a periodic basis. Mr.

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Person stated that he believes the city would be able to provide the report to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Alva stated that he would like to receive that report, and that he would like information about the danger points of whatever materials are found in the air.

Mr. Person stated that staff can obtain any reports and information the AQMD has available, but that the city does not have the capacity or the expertise to obtain information beyond what the AQMD produces.

Chairman Dierking asked staff to provide any available report from the AQMD.

Commissioner Rentschler asked staff to give an update at the next meeting regarding the gun club site clean up as well as any future open space development plans that may be considered for that site.

Commissioner Rentschler stated that she had the opportunity to tour a new development "Dos Lagos" in Corona and that she was impressed with the eco-friendly/ sustainable development. Commissioner Rentschler extended an open invitation from one of Corona's Council members, to take a tour of the development.

Chairman Dierking announced the next Planning Commission meeting would be held January 30th, at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Alva made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Dodson, and the meeting was adjourned.

K. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.