Minutes of the Meeting: February 17, 2015

Location: Otay Water District Headquarters
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd.
Training Room, Lower Terrace

A. ROLL CALL: 7:01pm, Karibia Baillargeon, Chair

   Members Present: Baillargeon, Becker, Brownlee, Chapman, Fitchett, Henderson, Hernandez, Hyatt, Myers, Perry, Rand, Schuppert, Tierney, Wollitz
   Members Absent: Feathers

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF:

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: No discussion or comment was heard

D. ACTION ITEMS:

1. M-15-001 - State Farm Signage: Site Plan Waiver Request for replacement wall signs at State Farm Office located at 3661 Avocado Blvd: Lori Myers, Committee Member

   Background: The State Farm business is located in the Rancho San Diego Center; the Vons/Dixieline shopping center just north of Hwy 94 and between Avocado Blvd and Via Mercado streets. This office has been located here for the 10 years. This site has 2 neon lit signs, one on the front of the building and one on the back. This parcel has assigned to it the “B” Special Area Regulation. This means that Site Plan Permit processing is required to make changes. In this case, the applicant is asking that we, the local Planning Group, recognize there would be no benefit to the community should we require the Site Plan process be followed. The applicant is requesting that we recommend to the County that the Site Plan Permit processing requirement be waived.

   The applicant needs to change the existing signs to comply with State Farm; the Vons/Dixieline shopping center just north of Hwy 94 and between Avocado Blvd and Via Mercado. Internally-lit LED. Both the front and back signs are to be changed and they are compliant with the total permitted sign square footage. 3.5sf/linear frontage; 15 are to be changed and they are compliant.

   Discussion: Ms Myers states: The sign simulation shows different lengths (115 vs 112). If applicant shows that, in public, this is just a minor/small error, then we can go ahead and approve the exemption request. What will happen: the applicant initials it, the chair initials, then chair will stamp a revised version but an accurate revised version, then all is good.

   Motion was presented by Ms. Myers: the VDOCPG recommends the Site Plan Exemption be granted. Seconded by Allison Henderson. Motion Approved.

   VOTE: 14-0-0-1

2. Reduction to the Frequency of Planning Group Meetings:

   Discussion: Ms. Chapman: concerned that the VDOCPG might not have sufficient time to have our voice heard on important matters if we reduce the frequency of meetings. The Chair mentioned that staff at PDS said that they would adjust the timetable of what gets sent over to the planning group as well as the amount of time to respond
San Diego County

VALLE DE ORO COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
3755 Avocado Blvd #187
La Mesa, CA  91941

to matters according to the revised meeting schedule of the VDOCPG. Ms Myers: noted that other groups have changed their meeting frequency as well. Most groups now meet once per month. If needed, we can hold ad hoc meeting, or get an extension. Ms. Baillargeon: County doesn’t have a problem with this b/c we have cancelled a lot of mtgs.
Ms. Myers: only 1 of 3 groups meeting twice a month. It used to be most met 2 times per month.
Perry: is there a possibility of county lowering the number of members in each group?
Myers: there is a problem getting enough people to volunteer, getting a quorum can be tough.
Schuppert: we can always change it back if we don’t like it.
Baillargeon: We will start next month.

The Chair presented a motion to reduce the frequency of planning group meetings from twice a month to one meeting per month on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Seconded by Susan Brownlee. Motion Approved.

VOTE: 14-0-0-1

E. GROUP BUSINESS:

• Myers provided and update on the Skyline Church Brush Clearing project: Last month,VDOCPG had received a request for brush clearing. We have now received a notice that the Church has removed their application. This is an open space conservation issue. They needed a permit to clear brush b/c it’s open space consideration.

• Chair noted that she has received several pre-application notifications for projects within in our planning areas.
  o Faith Chapel Church: School on property
  o Cottonwood Golf Course: 623 unit housing development
  o Tree Trimming Project
The group will work through these projects as we get more detail.

• Form 700: Chair noted that Form 700 is due from all planning group members in March. You can use the group’s address to maintain your privacy: 3755 Avocado Blvd, #187, La Mesa, Ca 91941

• Invitation received for a workshop titled “Liveability and Sustainability” on Feb 21st. Chair: chair of Spring Valley PG attended the first workshop; lots of chairs went; concerned about a few topics; one had to do with fast tracking “leapfrog” development. Myers: this issue may have similarity with “red tape reduction task force”. Should send invite to everyone.

F. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – No report

G. ADJOURNMENT -  7:41pm