MINUTES OF THE MEETING APRIL 4, 2017

Location
Otay Water District Headquarters
2554 Sweetwater Springs Blvd
Spring Valley, CA 91978
Training Room, Lower Level

Meeting called to Order: 7:03 PM, David Johnston, Chair

A. ATTENDANCE

- **Members Present:** 11 (Burley, Feathers, Hyatt, Johnston, Kenny, Kossman, Myers, Nold, Schuppert, Steele, Zimmerman)
- **Members Absent:** 3 (Baillargeon, Bickley, Tinsley Becker)
- **Member Vacancies:** 1

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Minutes to Approve:** March 7, 2017 VDO CPG Meeting
- The CPG adopted the minutes from the March 7, 2017 meeting
- **Comments:**
  1) The Approval of Minutes vote count was inaccurate. The vote count was corrected from 8/0/3/0/2 to 9/0/3/1/2. At the time of approving the Meeting Minutes, we had 9 members present; 1 member (Baillargeon) was absent.
  2) Vote: 10/0/1/3/1

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

D. ACTION ITEMS

**Item 1:**
- **Start Time:** 7:07 p.m.
- **CPG Presenter:** Schuppert
- **Applicant Speakers / Representatives:** Mr. Nguyen, Applicant’s Representative
- **County Representative:** None
- **Abstentions or Disqualifications:** None
- **Item issue Summary:** A Site plan exemption type “B” has been submitted by the McDonald’s located at 3781 Avocado Blvd, La Mesa, CA 91941. The applicant wishes to replace the two existing menu boards with intercom and single drive through signage with smaller, more modern equipment/signage. The biggest change being the menu boards will be updated to computer screens.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **CPG Discussion Points:**
  When asked what was the impetus for the upgrade, the applicant responded the upgrade to computer-generated screens would eliminate maintenance issues. Also received confirmation from the applicant that the lights will not be flashing, etc.
- **Motion:** Approve the “B” waiver for the proposed change in signage.
- **Second:** Kenny
- **VOTE:** 11/0/0/3/1

Order: (Yeah / Nay / Abstain / Absent / Vacant)
Item 2:

- **Start Time:** 7:12 p.m.
- **CPG Presenter:** Burley
- **Applicant Speakers / Representatives:** Mr Light (Representative)
- **County Representative:** None
- **Abstentions or Disqualifications:** None
- **Item issue Summary:** The Miss Donuts shop located at 9711 Campo Road, Spring Valley CA 91977 wants to replace the existing “Miss Donuts” pole sign and add cinderblocks around the sign’s base. The sign height is 25’ per code. The new sign is larger (8’x10’) and it includes panels for 6 of the other tenants and the base would be modified from bollards to a small 8’x3’ cinder block planter. The design and colors of the tenant panels were not identified but will be consistent to each other. The sign will be interiorly lit with LED lamps and be put on a timer to shutoff after midnight.

The applicant indicated the addition of the cinder block planter was a last minute thought and agreed to replace the cinder block planter with the 4′ bollards. This change needs to be reflected on the Site Plan.

- **Public Comment:** None
- **CPG Discussion Points:**

  The sign to be replaced is a Pole Sign; the VDO Community Plan directs Pole Signs be eliminated not be new construction/replacement. Alternatives, such as a monument sign, etc. are not feasible at this time.

  The addition of a cinder block planter was a major discussion point. How would the plants get watered and maintained? Answer: “By one of the tenants.” Will the plants be tall enough to provide a visual cue to anyone backing up toward the pole? Answer: “Now you’re gonna tell me what I have to plant.” Doesn’t look like the cinder block wall will be tall enough to be seen by someone backing up.

  Based on many visits to the parking area, maneuverability in the parking lot, around the pole sign is already difficult, adding the cinder block base is a bad idea as it decreases driving maneuverability and becomes a larger, unseen (especially if backing up) target. This will make traffic flow worse. Recommend staying with the 4′ bollards.

  Moving to a larger sign was also brought up. The applicant indicated that by making room for 6 other tenants, it would provide clients with more visibility and eliminate the need for their non-code compliant banners, etc. The desire is to improve and clean up the area.

  Lighting of the sign was discussed briefly; using LED lamps and a timer to control hours of operation.

- **Motion:** Approve the modified plan which shows the replacement of the cinder block planter box with 4 bollards, 4′ in height above ground level, located around the existing base of the sign, no more than 1′ from the concrete base of the sign

- **Second:** Kenny
- **VOTE:** 10 / 1 / 0 / 3 / 1   
  Order: (Yeah / Nay / Abstain / Absent / Vacant)
E. GROUP BUSINESS:

- **Start Time:** 7:58 p.m.
- **March 22, 2017 Board of Supervisors Meeting Update**
  Feathers indicated she along with Chair Johnston, Rory Jones (CSA 26 Chair) and members of the Casa De Oro Alliance attended the Board of Supervisors meeting to support Supervisor Jacob’s “Park Initiative.” Sup Jacob’s presented her proposal. Supervisors Roberts and Horn shot it down due to the identified funding source – unused annual monies, which is not a reliable source of funding. It was recommended she make it a line item in the budget. When Sup Jacob asked if she would have their support for the budget entry, Roberts and Horn were non-committal. Supervisor Jacob plans to have her staff rework and reword the initiative and bring it back to the BoS for consideration.

- **Park Lands Dedication Ordinance Update. Myers/Feathers**
  (Attended the March 16, 2017 meeting of the Casa De Oro Alliance, 30+ people attended, explained the Park Land Dedication Ordinance, source of the PLDO monies, the role we as a Planning Group play with respect to the PLDO monies. We then opened up the floor to solicit input from community members as to how they would like to see Estrella Park developed.

  The initial comments revolved around their desire to have a safe place for their kids to congregate. They are concerned that an unstaffed location, like a park, would attract the homeless and those that are using drugs.

  Comments ranged from a Staffed Recreation Center, Municipal pool all the way to a more achievable DG pathways, shaded picnic tables and mixed-age play structures.

  We will follow-up with the County Parks Department and Supervisor Jacob’s office and hope to return to a future Casa De Oro Alliance meeting with responses to each of the items they mentioned.

- **Skyline Church, Feathers**
  The applicant submitted their letter of intent to proceed with their project

- **MUP16-019 Jacobs Telecommunications 3838 Conrad Dr, cell tower, Hyatt/Kenny**
  Expecting movement, anticipate this project being ready for the May 2017 VDOCPG meeting

- **Frontera Investments Self-Storage, Campo Road (PDS2017-STP-17-008), Kosman/Becker**
  Pending receipt of a site map, this project might be ready for VDOCPG review as early as May 2017

- **Future Projects**
  An individual contacted Member Burley, wanting to meet with the VDOCPG to discuss the challenges, pitfalls and regulations of getting approval to develop land by Valhalla HS for single-family housing. The VDOCPG Chair created an ad-hoc subcommittee (Johnston, Schuppert, Burley, Kenny) to meet with the developer to discuss his potential development.

  Chair Johnston was contacted by an individual who indicated he has started the process to replace the ‘old’ Starbucks on Avocado (across from Dixieline) to a ‘wings’ restaurant. He will be submitting a site Plan “B” design review in the near future.

F. ADJOURNMENT: 8:09 p.m.

Submitted by: Lori Myers