

City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California USA

Minutes for Planning Commission Meeting of February 16, 2011

Call to Order: Chair Jorgen Von Frausing-Borch called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Commissioners Trevor Harper and Dan Brown, and City Clerk Nancy Kaytis-Slocum and City Planner Vanessa Blodgett were present. Lino Mogni and Nancy Trujillo were absent. Those in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

MOTION: (Brown/Harper): The January 26, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved. There was no public comment. Commissioner Mogni joined the commission at 7:20pm.

PUBLIC HEARING: Exception to Development – Keith Power; 550 Eugene, Fence height. The Chair opened the public hearing. Planner Blodgett gave a brief overview of the project. The applicant showed pictures of the fence and also submitted a letter from some of the neighbors showing that they did not mind the height of the fence. Discussion followed including Commissioner Harper who felt that a 9' fence does not maintain the integrity of the neighborhood. Planner Blodgett advised that this type of permit goes with the fence and if the fence needs to be rebuilt at some future time, it would have to come back before the Planning Commission for another exception to development permit. Commissioner Brown was concerned with setting precedence by allowing a nine foot fence. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:45. Condition 6 was added: The fence height along the front portion of the southeast side (adjacent to the 560 Eugene Street driveway) shall be reduced to three feet tall for the first five feet back from the sidewalk adjacent to Eugene Street. MOTION: (Brown/Mogni) Adopt Resolution No. PC 2011-10 making the required findings of fact listed in Attachment A, and approve the Exception to Development Standards Permit, subject to the conditions of approval listed in Attachment B as amended to allow for a six to nine foot tall fence at 550 Eugene Street (APN 031-103-003). Motion carried unanimously. When the clerk reiterated what the vote meant by showing the applicant that he would have to reduce all of the Northwest side of the fence to six feet, the chair said that was not what he a voted for. MOTION: (Brown/Mogni) Move to reconsider the previous motion. All in favor. Discussion followed regarding whether the fence rail at nine feet could be left up, whether the nine foot fence along the neighbor's barn could be left and the fact that the northwest section of the fence could be seen from Berding Street. The original motion was repeated: MOTION: (Brown/Harper) Adopt Resolution No. PC 2011-10 making the required findings of fact listed in Attachment A, and approve the Exception to Development Standards Permit, subject to the conditions of approval listed in Attachment B as amended to allow for a six to nine foot tall fence at 550 Eugene Street (APN 031-103-003). The motion carried with a no from Commissioner von Frausing-Borch.

Commissioner Mogni advised that the Sign and Lighting committee had not yet met.

Under correspondence, City Clerk Kaytis-Slocum explained that three letters had gone out to businesses; two of them had to do with signage and one had to do with a door. The Clerk was asked to send a fourth letter regarding a sign that did not come before the Design Review Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Kaytis-Slocum, City Clerk