

City of Ferndale, Humboldt County, California USA
Minutes for Planning Commission Meeting of May 18, 2011

Call to Order: Chair Jorgen Von Frausing-Borch called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 7:00p.m. Commissioners Lino Mogni, Nancy Trujillo, Trevor Harper and Dan Brown as well as staff City Manager Jay Parrish and City Clerk Nancy Kaytis-Slocum were present. Those in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag. MOTION: (Brown/Harper): The April 20, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved. There was no public comment.

100 Harrison Avenue – Vacation Rental Application. Commissioner Trujillo recused herself. Chairman von Frausing-Borch opened the public hearing. Staff introduced the item recommending approval. Ms. Trujillo, as property manager for the applicant, was there to answer questions. Mr. Dick Hooley said he was not opposed to this particular vacation rental, but opposed to Vacation Rentals in residential districts. He doesn't like the idea of transients coming in and out. The public hearing was closed. Ms. Trujillo then left the room for the commission discussion and vote. MOTION: (Brown/Mogni) Adopt Resolution No. 2011-22PC making the required findings of fact listed in Attachment A to approve the Use Permit, subject to the conditions of approval listed in Attachment B, and allow for vacation rental use of the existing residence located at 100 Harrison Street. Four in favor, one absent (Trujillo, who had recused herself). Ms. Trujillo re-joined the commission.

Reaffirmation of direction given to Design Review: City Manager Jay Parrish explained that with the chart and documents included in the packet, it can be shown that the Planning Commission directed the Design Review committee to look at all sections of the Zoning Ordinance that pertain to Design Review. In the chart and in the documents presented at the meeting, it can be shown that the Planning Commission directed the Design Review committee to look at all sections of the Zoning Ordinance that pertain to Design Review. Both the Planning Commission and the City Council accepted the Design Review's mission statement. This was an information only item.

Signs: Design Review Committee member Michael Bailey presented his research on signs to the Planning Commission, including an outline for a possible sign ordinance. Commissioner Trujillo distributed a packet of information she had compiled on signs. A lengthy discussion followed touching on: does the Planning Commission have the authority to spend money? No, only the council can do that; enforcement issues, comments on various signs in the city, open and closed signs, vacancy, no vacancy signs, what is the definition of a sign?, complaint driven enforcement. The Chamber of Commerce is holding a meeting on May 23, 2011 at 5:30 pm at the Village Inn conference room. It was requested that the clerk notice the meeting in case a quorum of the City Council, Planning Commission or Design Review Committee would happen to be there. MOTION: (Trujillo/Mogni) Hold this item over to the next meeting, with no further action. Aye: Trujillo, Mogni, von Frausing-Borch; Nay Brown; Abstain (which is a no vote) Harper. Motion carried.

Public Education: Design Review Committee member Michael Sweeney spoke on his efforts to move forward with ways to inform and educate people in the community. One way would be to post the DRAFT Historic and Cultural Resource online and ask for comments within a certain time period. Kaytis-Slocum will check with the web master to see if a General Plan page can be created, and will check with the City Manager to see who will collect the comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The next regular meeting will be June 15, 2011

Respectfully submitted:
Nancy Kaytis-Slocum, City Clerk