

Minutes of the Huntington Park Planning Commission meeting held on April 7, 2010.

Chairperson Sanchez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present: Commissioners Eddie Benitez, Rosa Perez, Eddie Carvajal, and Chairperson Avygail Sanchez; Absent: Commissioner Veronica Lopez (declared excused); Also present: Planning Manager Eric Garcia, Assistant Planner Joanna Cortez, and Recording Secretary Genny Ochoa.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Vice Chair Perez, seconded by Commissioner Benitez, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 3, 2010, as modified. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Benitez, Carvajal, and Chairperson Sanchez; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Lopez.

Public Appearances

None.

Continued Public Hearings

None.

Public Hearings

A. CASE NO. 1912-DP/CUP/VAR: Consideration of a request by Robert Salazar for a Development Permit, Conditional Use Permit and Variance to construct a 1,900 square feet industrial building and establish a forklift repair business at 2444 E. 56th Street within the Industrial/ Manufacturing Planned Development (MPD) Zone.

Assistant Planner Joanna Cortez reviewed the Administrative Report, which included the Municipal Code Requirements and Required Findings for a Development Permit, Conditional Use Permit, and Variance, Administrative Comments and Analysis, and Recommendation. Ms. Cortez stated that the applicant proposes to demolish the existing buildings on the subject site and construct a 1,900 square feet building consisting of an office, warehouse, and two restrooms. Ms. Cortez added that the applicant is unable to provide a two-way driveway aisle as required; therefore, the Variance request is to maintain the existing 15 ft. driveway. Ms. Cortez stated that based on the evidence presented, staff recommended the approval of Case No. 1912-DP/CUP/VAR, subject to Conditions No. 1-33 as outlined in the Administrative Report.

Chairperson Sanchez declared the public hearing open and called for those wishing to speak in favor of or against Case No. 1912-DP/CUP/VAR. Mr. Alan Kohn (2440 E. 56th St., Huntington Park), came forward and stated that there are two existing gates in the alley obstructing through traffic, and asked if the gates would be removed.

With no one else coming forward to speak for or against Case No. 1912-DP/CUP/VAR, Chairperson Sanchez declared the public hearing closed.

After a discussion, the Commission directed staff to research if the City has vacated the alley at the rear of the subject site or if it is a public alley, which would require the removal of the existing gates.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Perez, seconded by Commissioner Carvajal, to continue the public hearing to the Planning Commission meeting of April 21, 2010. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Benitez, Perez, Carvajal, and Chairperson Sanchez; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Lopez.

B. CASE NO. 1913-ZOA: Consideration of a resolution recommending to the City Council adoption of an ordinance amending Title 9, Chapter 4, Article 2 regarding hours of operation for check cashing, currency exchange, money advance and money transfer uses within the City.

Planning Manager Garcia reviewed the Administrative Report and summarized the chronology of City Council actions related to check cashing, currency exchange, money advance and money transfer uses within the City. Mr. Garcia stated that the proposed amendments include modifying the hours of operation of check cashing establishments to permit 24-hour operations, as well as modifying language in the table of “Allowed Land Uses” and the section in the ordinance which identifies the zones allowing these uses, making the table consistent with the language in the existing ordinance. Mr. Garcia stated that staff recommended that the Planning Commission adopt the proposed resolution recommending to the City Council the ordinance amendment.

Chairperson Sanchez declared the public hearing open and called for those wishing to speak in favor of or against Case No. 1913-ZOA. Mr. Tony Flores (PLS Financial, 930 Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA) came forward to speak in favor of Case No. 1913-ZOA. Mr. Flores stated that a 24-hour operation at the Huntington Park PLS Financial store located at 3217 E. Florence Avenue would provide convenient financial services to people who work different shifts at their place of employment. Mr. Flores stated that the store had received a satisfactory report from the Huntington Park Police Department and that PLS Financial wished to offer its extended services to the Huntington Park community. Mr. Flores stated that PLS is in agreement with the existing conditions of approval of the Huntington Park store and requested that the Commission approve Case No. 1913-ZOA.

With no one else coming forward to speak for or against the Case No. 1913-ZOA, Chairperson Sanchez declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Benitez, seconded by Commissioner Carvajal, to approve Case No. 1913-ZOA recommending to the City Council the adoption of an ordinance amending Title 9, Chapter 4, Article 2 regarding hours of operation for check cashing, currency exchange, money advance and money transfer uses within the City. The motion carried as follows: Ayes: Commissioners Benitez, Perez, Carvajal, and Chairperson Sanchez; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Lopez.

New Business

None.

Information Items

None.

Subjects Presented by the Planning Commission

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Sanchez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Secretary