



MINUTES

LA MESA PLANNING COMMISSION

A Regular Meeting via Teleconference

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**La Mesa City Hall Council Chambers
8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California**

Approved December 15, 2021

The meeting may be conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with Government Code Section 54953, as amended by Assembly Bill 361.

The Agenda for this meeting was posted on September 30, 2021, at 5:15 p.m., on the Bulletin Board next to the entrance to the City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission members present were Chair Newland, Vice Chair Cooper, Commissioners Alvarado, and Coston. Commissioner Jones was absent.

Staff members present were Community Development Director Kerry Kusiak, Contract Planner Michael Fellows and Assistant City Attorney Cory Lacy.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Newland gave the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda – None

Public Comment (non-agenda items) – None

Note: In accordance with State Law, an item not scheduled on the Agenda may be brought forward by the general public for discussion; however, the Commission will not be able to take any action at this meeting. If appropriate, the item will be referred to staff or placed on a future agenda.

Procedural Rules for Conduct of Hearings – Commissioner Torpey read the Procedural Rules.

Hearings

- A. Project No. 2017-31 (CUP 17-88) (Hillside) – Consideration of a proposed commercial building and a conditional use permit for a proposed storefront retail medicinal cannabis use at 7901 Hillside Drive, APN 470-200-27-00 in the C-D-MU (General Commercial / Urban Design Overlay / Mixed Use Overlay) zone

Mr. Fellows presented the staff report.

Mr. Phil Rath, on behalf of the applicant, Will Senn, provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Those in favor:

- Will Senn - Owner
- Phil Rath

Those with concerns:

- Jessica McElfresh
 - Ms. McElfresh asked that Condition 123 be added regarding signage stating that access to the building via El Cajon Boulevard is strictly forbidden.

Those in opposition:

- Rebecca Branstetter
- Jay Davenport
- Jessica McElfresh
- Nicholas Del Pego
- Jean Duffy
- Jami (no last name given)
- Marie Knox
- Dwayne (sp)
- Dana Stevens

Mr. Senn responded to questions and comments from those in opposition to the proposed project.

The public hearing was closed.

The Commissioners discussed the project.

ACTION: Commissioner Coston made a motion to approve the project as presented with the addition of Condition 123 which reads as follows:

“Clear and legible signs shall be posted at entrances on El Cajon Boulevard stating that any access to the dispensary through those entrances is strictly prohibited.”

Vice Chair Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried with 4 in favor, 1 opposed (Alvarado) and 1 absent (Jones).

Mr. Kusiak read the appeal procedures.

Business

- A. Approval of the minutes for the regular Planning Commission meeting held Wednesday, September 15, 2021

ACTION: Vice Chair Cooper made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Alvarado seconded the motion. Motion carried with 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 absent (Jones).

- B. Assignment of the Invocation/Pledge and Procedural Rules

For the next Planning Commission meeting Commissioner Jones will give the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Coston will read the Procedural Rules.

Informational Items

Chair Newland shared that he will be speaking about the history of Grossmont Center on October

9th at 10:00 a.m. at the Well at Grossmont Center. The presentation is open to the public.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Davis
Administrative Coordinator