

CITY OF ESCONDIDO

**ACTION MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ESCONDIDO PLANNING COMMISSION**

May 10, 2022

The meeting of the Escondido Planning Commission was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chair Barba, in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway, Escondido, California.

Commissioners present: Katharine Barba, Chair; David Barber, Commissioner; Dao Doan, Commissioner; Carrie Mecaro, Commissioner; Rick Paul, Commissioner; Barry Speer, Commissioner and Stan Weiler, Commissioner.

Commissioners absent: None.

Staff present: Adam Finestone, Interim Director of Community Development; Gary McCarthy, Assistant City Attorney; Owen Tunnell, Assistant City Engineer; Veronica Morones, Senior Planner; and Jessica Engel, Minutes Clerk.

MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Paul, seconded by Commissioner Weiler, to approve the Action Minutes of the March 22, 2022, Planning Commission meeting. Motion carried (5-0). Ayes: Barba, Doan, Mecaro, Paul, Weiler; Abstained: Barber, Speer.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: Two items were provided to the Commissioners prior to the meeting. An email from Laura Hunter on behalf of the Sierra Club North County Group and a letter from Mitchell Tsai on behalf of Attorneys for Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters.

FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Jorge Viramontes of the Southwest Regional Association of Carpenters provided comments regarding the environmental impact of using a local workforce.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. 2021 – 2029 General Plan Housing Element Update (PHG20-0030):

REQUEST: Receive and file the informational report and status update on revisions to the Housing Element.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: The 2021 – 2029 General Plan Housing Element informational report and status update involves data gathering for the purpose of a future update to the Element and is categorically exempt from further environmental review pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines section 15306 (Information Collection). Future adoption of a revised Housing Element will be subject to further environmental review in compliance with CEQA requirements.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Commissioners discussed the update including timeline, inclusionary housing, engagement of the public, sector feasibility study, RHNA requirements, SB743 and suitable sites inventory.

2. 2022 – 2023 Planning Commission Work Plan:

REQUEST: Review and provide input on the draft 2022 – 2023 Planning Commission Work Plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: The 2022 – 2023 Planning Commission Work Plan is not considered a project under CEQA, pursuant to CEQA guidelines section 15378(b)(5).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: None.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Commissioners discussed the work plan including staff and funding for implementation, education and training activities, and update schedule for the work plan.

SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR:

Selection of Chair:

Commissioner Paul nominated himself and provided a brief statement of his qualifications.

Commissioner Speer nominated Commissioner Weiler. Commissioner Weiler accepted the nomination and provided a brief statement of his qualifications.

Commissioner Doan nominated Chair Barba. Chair Barba accepted the nomination and provided a brief statement of her qualifications.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Commissioner Weiler and seconded by Commissioner Speer to appoint Commissioner Weiler to the position of Planning Commission Chair. Motion Failed 2-5. Ayes: Speer and Weiler. Noes: Barba, Barber, Doan, Mecaro, and Paul.

Moved by Commissioner Barber and seconded by Commissioner Doan to reappoint Chair Barba to the position of Planning Commission Chair. Motion Approved 4-3. Ayes: Barba, Barber, Doan, and Mecaro. Noes: Paul, Speer and Weiler.

Selection of Vice-Chair:

Commissioner Weiler nominated Commissioner Speer and Commissioner Doan nominated Commissioner Paul.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Moved by Commissioner Barber and seconded by Chair Barba to appoint Commissioner Paul to the position of Planning Commission Vice-Chair. Motion Approved 5-2. Ayes: Barba, Barber, Doan, Mecaro, and Paul. Noes: Speer and Weiler.

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS:

Vice-Chair Paul reported that in support of the Climate Action Plan, Escondido has joined the Clean Energy Alliance and he has been appointed to the citizen's advisory committee.

Commissioner Weiler requested to have a discussion added to a future agenda to discuss changing the meeting time of the Planning Commission.

Chair Barba encouraged Commissioners to read the single use plastics ordinances from other agencies in the county that was provided previously to the Commission.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Interim Director of Community Development Adam Finestone provided a reminder of free Planning Commissioner training taking place on June 17, 2022 and that the City will cover gas and parking expenses. He requested that Commissioners advise him individually if they would like a hard copy or emailed copy of the agenda packet. A discussion of bylaws will be added to a future agenda. The regularly scheduled meeting of May 24, 2022 will be cancelled. The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled to take place on June 14, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Barba adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.



Adam Finestone, Secretary to the
Escondido Planning Commission



Jessica Engel, Minutes Clerk