

CITY OF ESCONDIDO

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

August 24, 2021

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; Dao Doan, Commissioner; Rick Paul, Commissioner; Nathan Serrato, Commissioner; and Stan Weiler, Commissioner.

Commissioners absent: Ingrid Rainey, Vice-Chair; Herminia Ramirez, Commissioner.

Staff present: Adam Finestone, Interim Director of Community Development; Sean Nicholas, Principal Planner; Kurt Whitman, Senior Deputy City Attorney; Owen Tunnell, Assistant City Engineer; and Jessica Engel, Minutes Clerk.

MINUTES:

Moved by Chair Barba, seconded by Commissioner Paul, to approve the Action Minutes of the July 27, 2021, Planning Commission meeting. Motion carried (4-0). Ayes: Barba, Doan, Paul, and Weiler. Noes: None. Absent: Rainey and Ramirez. Abstained: Serrato.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Updated Attachment 1 and Resolution No 2021-08 Exhibit B of the 2021 Zoning Code Omnibus Update provided by Sean Nicholas.

FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:**1. ZONING CODE AMENDMENT – PL-21-0152:**

REQUEST: A series of Escondido Zoning Code Amendments to address changes in state laws, correct errors, and clarify or improve existing regulations. The proposal involves minor amendments to Article 34 (Communication Antennas), Article 35 (Outdoor Lighting), Article 47 (Environmental Quality), Article 55 (Grading and Erosion Control), Article 56 (Miscellaneous Development Standards), Article 61 (Administration and Enforcement), Article 64 (Design Review), Article 65 (Old Escondido Neighborhood), Article 66 (Sign Ordinance), Article 67 (Density Bonus and Residential Incentives), Article 68 (Growth Management Ordinance), and Article 70 (Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units) of the Escondido Zoning Code. The request also includes a minor revision to Table 4.1 of the East Valley Specific Plan.

PROPERTY SIZE AND LOCATION: CityWide

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: The proposed code amendments are categorically or statutorily exempt from further environmental review pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.17 and CEQA Guidelines sections 15274(a), 15282(h), 15301, 15303, 15304, and 15311, or do not qualify as a “project” under CEQA.

APPLICANT: City of Escondido

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Provide a recommendation to City Council to approve the Project.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS: None.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Commissioners discussed various aspects of the proposed Zoning Code Amendments including accessory dwelling units, outdoor lighting requirements, CEQA thresholds, the use of “should” vs. “shall,” and other formatting changes.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Weiler, seconded by Chair Barba to approve PL-21-0152 with changes recommended by staff. Motion carried 5-0. Ayes: Barba, Doan, Paul, Serrato, and Weiler. Noes: None. Absent: Rainey and Ramirez.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. BROWN ACT PRESENTATION

Senior Deputy City Attorney Kurt Whitman provided a presentation on the Brown Act.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Weiler requested clarification on sharing information with one Commissioner and not the group.

Commissioner Doan asked if an article could be shared that is not being discussed in a previous or future meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS:

Chair Barba asked if Staff could provide an update on the recent public comments requesting that local workers be utilized on projects in the City.

Commissioner Paul asked if there are any Housing Element updates.

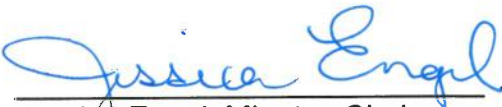
DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Interim Director of Community Development Adam Finestone noted that the regularly scheduled meeting of September 14, 2021, would be canceled. The next meeting will be held on September 28, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Barba adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.


Adam Finestone, Secretary to the
Escondido Planning Commission


Jessica Engel, Minutes Clerk

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