MINUTES REGULAR MEETING SANTA FE SPRINGS PLANNING COMMISSION JANUARY 11, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Moore called the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. OATH OF OFFICE

Deputy City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Planning Commissioner Frank Ybarra and re-appointed Planning Commissioners Laurie Rios and Larry Oblea.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Planning Secretary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL was taken, with the following results:

Present:

Chairperson Moore
Vice Chairperson Oblea
Commissioner Madrigal
Commissioner Rios
Commissioner Ybarra

Staff:

Paul Ashworth, Director of Planning and Development

Wayne Morrell, Principal Planner Cuong Nguyen, Associate Planner

Steve Masura, Redevelopment Manager Luis Collazo, Code Enforcement Inspector

Susan Beasley, Executive Secretary

Steve Skolnik, City Attorney

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There being no one wishing to speak, Oral Communications were declared closed by Chairperson Moore.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Moore requested that the minutes be corrected to show the full name of audience member Carlos Esqueda. The minutes of December 14, 2009, upon unanimous consent, were declared approved, as corrected, by Chairperson Moore.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Moore vacated his position as Chairperson.

Vice Chairperson Oblea called for nominations for the position of Chairperson.

Commissioner Rios made a motion to nominate Larry Oblea. Commissioner Madrigal seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, declaring Larry Oblea as Chairperson.

Chairperson Oblea called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Rios made a motion to nominate Michael Madrigal. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, declaring Michael Madrigal as Vice Chairperson.

Chairperson Oblea proceeded with the Planning Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Reconsideration of Conditional Use Permit Case No. 487

Request for Reconsideration of Conditional Use Permit Case No. 487 to allow the installation of additional antennae equipment to an existing 110-foot mono-pole antennae structure and unmanned maintenance communications facility at 13560 Bora Drive in the M-2, Heavy Manufacturing, Zone, within the Consolidated Redevelopment Project Area. (Dan Vozenilek for Sprint)

The subject case was presented by Luis Collazo

The applicant's representative, Roger Spencer, was present in the audience.

Commissioner Moore asked what a wimax cabinet is.

Mr. Spencer answered that it is an electrical cabinet containing high speed network circuitry.

Commissioner Rios noted a typo on page 2, second paragraph. Planning Secretary so noted.

Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve Item No 8 as presented. Commissioner Rios seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. Reconsideration of Conditional Use Permit Case No. 635

Request for approval of a time extension to allow the continued operation and maintenance of an automotive training school at 10039 Pioneer Boulevard, in the ML-D, Limited Manufacturing Administration and Research-Design Zone, within the Consolidated Redevelopment Project Area. (Volvo Cars of North America, LLC).

The subject case was presented by Cuong Nguyen.

The applicant representative, Gary Garlock, was present in the audience.

Commissioner Moore asked when this case expired.

Mr. Nguyen clarified that the CUP expired in January 2009. The applicant requested the extension in a timely manner; however, their corporate check requisition process was lengthy.

Commissioner Rios made the comment that the building and landscape on the property is always been well maintained.

Vice Chairperson Madrigal hoped that the economy allowed them to stay at this facility.

Vice Chairperson Madrigal made a motion to approve Item No. 9 as presented. Commissioner Ybarra seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

10. Conditional Use Permit Case No. 703

Request for approval by Clear Wireless, LLC (Clearwire) to co-locate three (3) panel antennas with DAP heads, six (6) microwave dish assemblies, one (1) wimax cabinet/rack, and one (1) GPS antenna on an existing 67.5' high wireless telecommunication facility at 12222 Florence Avenue, approximately 375 feet south of Florence Avenue, in the M-2, Heavy Manufacturing, Zone. (Dan Vozenilek for Clearwire)

Cuong Nguyen presented the subject case.

The applicant's representative, Roger Spencer, was present in the audience.

Having no questions, Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve Item No. 10 as presented. Commissioner Rios seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

11. COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioners:

Commissioner Moore requested information on the city's position involving medical marijuana.

Mr. Skolnik advised that the City Council will soon receive a report from Staff suggesting possible regulations.

Commissioner Moore asked about the State's Green Building Code.

Mr. Ashworth said staff will gather information and make an informational presentation in the near future.

Commissioner Rios asked for comments on a recent newspaper article on involving permit issuance at the AQMD.

Mr. Ashworth advised the Planning Commission that the city endorsed SB 827 that was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor last November to allow the issuance of certain construction permits by the AQMD. Subsequently, environmental groups have threatened to appeal this legislation to in an attempt to block the issuance of these construction permits. Unless ordered otherwise, current construction permits with the AQMD will be allowed to be issued, including permits involving an auxiliary power generator at the Fire Headquarters and equipment upgrades at local schools and businesses.

Commissioner Rios asked if the City Council acted on the bowling alley sign.

Mr. Skolnik noted that the Planning Commission's action was not appealed; consequently, the City Council did not need to act on the bowling alley sign matter.

Vice Chairperson Madrigal asked if there would be a height requirement problem should a new buyer wish to retain the bowling alley sign.

Mr. Skolnik said that if a new owner wishes to use the sign, the city would work with the owner to incorporate the sign into the new development concept.

Vice Chairperson Madrigal asked if there was a time line for clean up of the old Powerine site.

Mr. Ashworth indicated that although there is no established time line to remediate the property, staff and the current property owner are anxious to complete remediation so that redevelopment can occur. Staff will keep the Commissioners updated as this project moves forward.

Vice Chairperson Madrigal voiced his concern over the number and height of cellular telecommunication antennas being installed within the city and asked if the guidelines could be amended to make sure all sites are visually pleasing.

Mr. Ashworth said staff will review the telecommunication antenna guidelines to determine if additional criteria are possible.

Chairperson Oblea asked if staff had heard the factory explosion on Park Street, off Shoemaker.

Mr. Ashworth said they had no update but it was investigated by the Fire Department.

Staff:

Mr. Ashworth presented Commissioner Moore with a commemorative gavel and thanked him on behalf of the entire staff for his service as Chairperson for 2009. Commissioner Moore thanked staff and fellow commissioners for the experience.

City Council will be conducting a Budget Study Session on Tuesday, January 19 at 6:00 p.m. for those interested.

Staff reminded Commissioners that due to a national holiday, the first meeting in February will be held on Tuesday, February 9.

Staff welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Frank Ybarra and congratulated Commissioner Rios and Chairperson Oblea on their re-appointments.

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Chairperson Oblea adjourned the Planning Commission meeting at 5:16 p.m.

Chairperson Oblea

ATTEST:

Susan R. Beasley, Planning Secretary