PLUM Committee Meeting on March 1, 2018

Minutes

Plum Committee members Patty Dryden, Orrin Feldman, Oren Katz, Danielle Mead, Luminita Roman and Matt Shichtman attended the meeting.

Richard Joludow, Area 2 Chair, attended the meeting to participate as a PLUM Committee member when 3635-3657 Regal Place was discussed.

Barbara Witkin, Area 7 Chair, attended the meeting to participate as PLUM Committee member when the Electric Owl restaurant at 1451 N. Gardner Street was discussed.

There were a sufficient number of committee members present to establish a quorum.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:03 p.m.

Approximately 30 stakeholders were present.

The committee voted to postpone reviewing the committee’s draft/revised minutes for the committee’s meeting on December 7, 2017, and to approve the draft minutes for the committee’s meeting on February 8, 2017.

1. 3635 - 3657 N. Regal Place.

Eyal Gamliel and his team presented the proposed project. The proposed project had been revised since its initial presentation to include more articulation and more parking spaces.

Several committee members and stakeholders liked the proposed project’s revised design, but a few committee members and stakeholders thought that the proposed project still was too massive.

Two stakeholders asked for help to preserve the bungalows on the site, which are slated for demolition, but which the developer is willing to give to the stakeholders if they can relocate the bungalows to some other site.

The proposed project was scheduled to be heard at the Mulholland Design Review Board on March 7, 2018. Based on what happens at the MDRB, the committee will decide whether the committee has any need to continue discussing the proposed project at future committee meetings. No vote(s) were taken.

2. 1770 N. Highland Avenue’s 7-Eleven Store

Sherrie Olson and the store’s owner, Raoul came to ask the committee whether there were any problems with the store’s operation, and whether there would be any concern(s) if the store were to apply for more operating hours. Currently, the store is open from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. daily. Raoul would like to operate the store 24/7.

They told the committee that they wouldn’t be asking for permission to sell beer, wine or other alcohol. Several committee members reminded them that the basis for HHWNC supporting the store was that the store would not sell any beer, wine or other alcohol.

Luminita mentioned that the shopping center owner’s undertaking to have a security guard there nightly had worked well for about three weeks after the 7-Eleven store opened, but not during the 9 to 10 months since then. The 7-Eleven team was going to check with the shopping center owner and provide the committee with an update for a future committee meeting.

Luminita also asked questions about the availability of fresh fruit and other produce/products at the store, which had been part of 7-Eleven’s undertakings when the store came to HHWNC in 2016/17.

Some committee members had concerns about the security at the site, and whether homeless people were camped out there or on the adjacent sidewalk(s). One committee member reminded everyone that she had been in favor of a 24/7 operation before the store opened, and continued to feel that would be appropriate.

The discussion was continued to a further meeting in order to allow 7-Eleven to gather/provide more information about the shopping center’s security efforts.

3. 1451 N. Gardner Street - The Electric Owl restaurant

Matthew Hayden, the restaurant’s representative, was there to ask the committee to support a plan approval by the Planning Department to confirm the original conditional use permit (CUP) for the restaurant after a year’s operations. The CUP allows the restaurant to sell a full line of alcoholic beverages for on site consumption.

Oren Katz and Barbara Witkin said that the restaurant had operated well in the neighborhood.

Orrin Feldman asked whether the restaurant was providing enough food options during the lunch and happy hour time periods. Mr.Hayden was going to check on that issue, and come back to the committee with more information.

There also was interest in learning whether the restaurant is permitted to have happy hour promotions.

The restaurant’s current hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. on wednesdays and thursdays, and from 7 a.m. to 12 midnight on fridays and saturdays.

4. 7021 Hollywood Blvd’s CVS store

Orrin recused himself from this item’s discussion.

Jennifer Oden and the store manager were there on behalf of CVS to request support for renewing the store’s conditional use permit to sell a full line of alcoholic beverages for off site consumption. Although the store operates 24/7, alcohol sales can be made only before 12 midnight.

Ms. Oden mentioned that there had been no calls for service to LAPD as a result of the store’s selling alcohol.

Oren Katz expressed opposition to allowing sales to continue until midnight.

Luminita Roman asked why milk sales were made only in half gallon containers there now, and why the store didn’t continue selling milk in gallon sized containers?

The committee voted (6 to 0) to support CVS’ CUP renewal with the condition that alcohol sales be reduced to the hours of 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

5. Ayndrea Wilson, who leads the California Artists Coalition, discussed how public funds are available for art projects, and how our neighborhoods’ stakeholders can become more involved in bringing more art projects in to our community’s new commercial development projects and other public spaces.

6. There were not public comments on non-agendized items.

7. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:59 p.m.