

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS
Planning Commission Study Session Minutes
June 2, 2010
Large Conference Room, City Hall
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, California

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Cohen called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Roll Call:	Present This Meeting:	Present to Date:	FY: 2009 / 2010 Absences:
Tracy Conrad		12	9
Doug Donenfeld	X	21	0
Doug Hudson	X	18	1
Leslie Munger	X	15	4
Bill Scott	X	19	2
Jon Caffery, Vice Chair		16	5
Leo Cohen, Chair	X	19	2

REPORT OF POSTING OF AGENDA:

The agenda was posted for public access at the City Hall exterior bulletin board (west side of Council Chamber) and the Planning Services counter by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, 27, 2010.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA: The agenda was accepted, as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Three (3) minutes is allowed for each speaker.

Chair Cohen opened public comments; and with no appearances coming forward public comments was closed.

1. DISCUSSION:

- 1A. 5.1235 ZTA: Amnesty / Abatement Program for Non-Permitted canopy and Carport Structures – Discussion of Public Outreach and Program Implementation

Director Ewing provided an overview on the Commission's previous discussions on the issue of non-permitted canopies and carports. He reported that education and public outreach will be critical to the success of the program that is implemented.

Staff believes there are three elements to a successful outreach program: How we connect with homeowners, what we tell them and how we invite feedback / participation in the program. Director Ewing explained that a series of workshops could be organized with the Neighborhood Organizations to inform their members. The Commission discussed neighborhood organizations, distribution of flyers, a booth at the annual neighborhood picnic, converted garages and amortization.

Commissioner Donenfeld suggested the local newspaper could be used to provide information to the general public. Director Ewing provided an overview on the process of the amnesty program including the notification process, zoning clearance, building permits and sign-off. He suggested the Commission, along with staff, could participate in the "windshield survey" and tour the neighborhoods.

Director Ewing noted that there are 1300 single detached homes and it would not be difficult to find out how many of these homes are a part of the neighborhood organizations; and so the question is how many remain and how do we contact these residents. Staff believes workshops are the best way to get this task accomplished.

Director Ewing recapped the Commission's suggestions in assisting with the task of public outreach:

1. Board of Directors
2. Neighborhood Organizations
3. Un-reinforced Masonry Programs
4. Building Safety Standards Specifications

Staff noted that a date and time would be scheduled for a canopy/carport tour consisting of two or three Commissioners at a time.

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Munger reminder staff that she would not be present for the June 9th meeting.

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Staff reported that the Specific Plan for the Desert Palisades project would be coming up on the meeting of June 23rd. Staff provided an update on the status of the Orchid Tree Inn and the Desert Fashion Plaza.

Commissioner Donenfeld requested staff address the policy on the Commission's contact information given to the public. Staff noted that the information listed on the Boards and Commissions application submitted to the City Clerk's office is public record.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further comments the Planning Commission meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m. to Wednesday, June 9, 2010 at 1:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chamber, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way.

Craig A. Ewing, AICP
Director of Planning Services

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