

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA**



**MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017
Palm Springs Convention Center
Primrose B
277 N. Avenida Caballeros, Palm Springs CA 92262
DOWNTOWN PARK
JOINT MEETING WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION
ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Moon called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Moon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmember Kors, Councilmember Mills, Councilmember Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem Foat, and Mayor Moon

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Ready, Assistant City Manager Fuller, City Attorney Kotkin, and Interim City Clerk Hart

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

ACTION: Approve the agenda as presented.

Approved unanimously (5-0-0) on a roll call vote.

PRESENTATION FROM MARK RIOS, RIOS CLEMENTI HALE STUDIOS, ON THE DOWNTOWN PARK:

1. Presentation on the Downtown Park and City Council questions.

Nate Comier, Rios Clementi Hale Studios, presented the revised park design including design, proposed designs, and feedback.

Council discussion ensued.

2. Public Comments:

Adam Teixeira, Palm Springs, indicated support for the proposed design.

Robert Stone, Palm Springs, commended Mark Rios on the design. He discussed Yorba Buena Park in San Francisco.

Frank Tysen, Palm Springs, indicated support for the proposed plan and suggested the other side of Museum Way should also be a park.

Elizabeth Armstrong, Executive Director of the Palm Springs Art Museum, spoke in support of the plan.

Todd Hayes, Palm Springs, stated he was happy with the design. He urged inclusion of the gates of the Desert Inn and naming of the park as Kaufman Park.

Brooke Hodge, Palm Springs Art Museum, thanked the designer, Council, and staff for public participation.

Judy Deertrack, Palm Springs, spoke positively of the Downtown Park and expressed concern regarding financing and annual operations and maintenance.

Dino Zonic, Palm Springs, commented on the need for music and a larger stage.

Michael Hirschbein, Palm Springs, spoke in support of the project and expressed caution relating to project approval surrounding the park.

Phillip Smith III, Palm Desert, indicated support for the designer but expressed concern with the Marilyn Monroe sculpture. He urged the public art element to be at the same level of the design itself.

Les Young, Palm Springs, Parks and Recreation Commissioner, stated support of the design.

Sid Craig, Palm Springs, Parks and Recreation Chair, stated he was proud of the design and community involvement.

No other speakers came forth to address the City Council; therefore, Mayor Moon closed the public comments.

3. City Council Discussion.

Council discussion ensued and included the following:

- Parking garage configuration
- Consideration of the size of the stage
- Need for an elevator
- Distance between the amphitheater and existing parking garage
- Perimeter connections
- Public furniture
- Public art including the Art Museum

- Need to honor the City's past

By consensus, the City Council directed the Mr. Comier, Rios Clementi Hale Studios, to incorporate the above mentioned modifications.

At 7:24 p.m., Mayor Moon called for a recess.

At 7:45 p.m., Mayor Moon reconvened the meeting with the Planning Commission, and all members of the City Council were present.

JOINT MEETING WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION

ROLL CALL (Planning Commission):

The following members of the Planning Commission were present:

Commissioners Donenfeld, Hirschbein, Lowe, Middleton, Vice Chair Calerdine, and Chair Weremiuk. Commissioner Hudson was absent.

REVIEW OF THE ACTIONS OF THE AD HOC PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) SUBCOMMITTEE REGARDING MODIFICATIONS TO THE PDD PROCESS:

1. Staff Report.

Director of Planning Services Fagg presented the staff report.

2. Public Comments:

Robert Stone, Palm Springs, suggested implementing the Planning Commission's actions, consider Ms. Deertrack's longitudinal study, and work to stop lawsuits over the projects.

Frank Tysen, Palm Springs, stated opposition to PDDs, suggested adherence to the General Plan and Zoning Code, expressed his concern with pending PDD projects.

Judy Deertrack, Palm Springs, commended the subcommittee and People for Proper Planning, and suggested consideration of using PDDs as an exception versus rule.

Marvin Roos, Palm Springs, discussed his experience in processing PDDs.

3. Discuss the recommendations of the Ad Hoc PDD Committee

The City Council and Planning Commission discussion ensued including the following:

- Reforming the Code
- Paying more attention to the General Plan and modify the plan to obtain a better mix of projects
- The community development process and issue with public benefits

- A standardized approach to provide a percentage of affordable housing or fee charge against the value of the construction permit that would be used to support non-profit organizations building affordable housing in Palm Springs
- Density versus open space
- PDDs involving small lots and the need for standards so as not to require a PDD
- A General Plan update and coordination of Zoning Code with the General Plan
- PDD is a good tool but it should not be overused
- Recommended staff determine items that could be instituted immediately with a second list of standards and actions on how to complete the standards
- The necessity to gain affordable housing when losing density
- The ideology of public benefit
- The Zoning Ordinance and General Plan needed to be consistent with each other and meet modern needs
- Suggested Director of Planning Services Fagg list the "low hanging fruit" then figure out a work program
- Suggested determining high value, low effort item and low value, high effort items

By consensus, the City Council directed Director of Planning Services Fagg to work with the City Council Planned Development District Ad Hoc Subcommittee prior returning this item to the City Council.

The Planning Commission adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS, REQUESTS, AND REPORTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:16 p.m. the City Council adjourned to the adjourned regular meeting Wednesday, July 26, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., preceded by Closed Session at the Palm Springs Convention Center, Primrose B, 277 N. Avenida Caballeros, Palm Springs.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen D. Hart, MMC
Interim City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE) ss.
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS)

I, KATHLEEN D. HART, Interim City Clerk of the City of Palm Springs, California, hereby certify that the July 20, 2017, MINUTES were approved by the City Council of the City of Palm Springs at a regular meeting held on December 6, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Kors, Mills, Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem Foat, and Mayor Moon
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
RECUSAL: None



Kathleen D. Hart, MMC
Interim City Clerk