

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
APRIL 13, 2022
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California
(Meeting held via Zoom)

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Weremiuk called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Aylaian, Hirschbein, Miller, Moruzzi, Vice Chair Roberts, Chair Weremiuk

Absent: Ervin

Staff Present: Principal Planner Robertson, Attorney Priest, Administrative Coordinator Hintz, Associate Planner Kikuchi, Associate Planner Mlaker

REPORT OF POSTING OF AGENDA: The Agenda was available for public access at the City Hall exterior bulletin board (west side of Council Chamber) by 9:00 pm on Thursday, April 7, 2022, and posted on the City's website as required by established policies and procedures.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

Hirschbein, seconded by Roberts to accept the agenda, as presented.

AYES: AYLAIAN, HIRSCHBEIN, MILLER, MORUZZI, ROBERTS, WEREMIUK
ABSENT: ERVIN

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chair Weremiuk opened public comments:

DAVID PRATT, representing ownership, Margaritaville Resort, Item 4A, noted they made substantial renovations converting the Riviera to the Margaritaville Resort. Mr. Pratt provided details about the Architectural Review Committee's (ARC) concerns with the two signs.

There being no further speakers' public comments was closed.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MARCH 9, 2022 AND MARCH 23, 2022

Roberts, seconded by Hirschbein to approve Item 1A, as presented.

AYES: AYLAIAN, HIRSCHBEIN, MILLER, MORUZZI, ROBERTS, WEREMIUK
ABSENT: ERVIN

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2A. GEORGE YOUSEF (DBA: PALM SPRINGS CAR WASH) FOR AN AMENDMENT TO A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALTER THE HOURS FOR OFF-PREMISES ALCOHOL SALES IN A RETAIL STORE LOCATED IN SECTION 14, AT 300 NORTH INDIAN CANYON DRIVE, ZONE REO, (CASE 5.1461 CUP). (GM)

Associate Planner Mlaker provided additional information requested by the Planning Commission including a table listing similar retail establishments with the business name, address, and hours that alcohol is available for sale.

Chair Weremiuk stated that the public hearing had been closed at the March 23, 2022 meeting and discussed the additional research in the staff report.

Commissioner Roberts said that he supports the hour extension but would like the City Council to discuss the possibility of capping the number of similar retail stores open late for alcohol sales.

Roberts made a motion to approve, as presented. Motion failed due to a lack of second.

Commissioner Scott said he does not support the two-hour extension as there are other stores selling at later hours outside the central business district. He stated the retail store is not well lit and is located at the back of the site.

Commissioner Hirschbein said he does not support the use of a pass-through window for liquor sales.

Commissioner Aylaian expressed concern about the late-night sale of liquor which may cause patrons to drive from outside areas.

Commissioner Moruzzi said he does not support the use of a pass-through window for liquor sales and finds the site as an inappropriate location.

Chair Weremiuk stated that the delivery service from BevMo past midnight is a different situation than the current request. The physical layout of the site with small convenience store placed at the back of the parcel with less street visibility is inappropriate for late night alcohol sales.

Weremiuk, seconded by Miller to deny the request stating that the Planning Commission cannot make required findings #2 and #3.

AYES: AYLAIAN, HIRSCHBEIN, MILLER, MORUZZI, WEREMIUK
NOES: ROBERTS
ABSENT: ERVIN

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

4. NEW BUSINESS:

4A. AN APPEAL BY DAVID PRATT OF TAMARACK CAPITAL PARTNERS OF THE DECISION BY THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE TO DENY A SIGN PROGRAM AMENDMENT APPLICATION, CASE 20-003 SP AMND, FOR THE APPROVAL OF TWO (2) EXISTING SIGNS ON THE FRONT CANOPY FASCIA AT THE MARGARITAVILLE RESORT PALM SPRINGS HOTEL LOCATED AT 1600 NORTH INDIAN CANYON DRIVE, ZONE R-3, SECTION 2 (CASE NO. 20-003 AMND). (NK)

Associate Planner Kikuchi presented the proposed sign appeal as outlined in the staff report.

In response to Commissioner Moruzzi's question about why the applicant did not go through the sign permit process, Mr. Pratt explained that he was not aware these two signs were not a part of the sign monument project that was previously reviewed.

Vice Chair Roberts said the "Changes in Latitude Changes in Attitude" sign seems to fit better and works better with their branding. The other sign "Mi Casa Es Su Casa" does not fit well and is a cheap quality.

Commissioner Miller said one sign is allowed and they have it with the monument sign; and having additional signs does not meet the criteria as outlined in the staff memorandum.

Vice Chair Roberts pointed out that this location has struggled for many years as a hotel. He noted that Margaritaville has specific branding and it's very specific to them.

Roberts, seconded by Weremiuk to approve Sign 'B' (located on Porte Cochere identified as the "Changes in Latitude Changes in Attitudes" sign), as part of their Sign Program and remove Sign 'A' (located on curved portion of the Porte Cochere facing South and identified as the "Mi Casa Es Su Casa" sign) from the front entry canopy fascia.

AYES: AYLAIAN, MORUZZI, ROBERTS, WEREMIUK
NOES: HIRSCHBEIN, MILLER
ABSENT: ERVIN


PLANNING COMMISSION REPORTS, REQUESTS AND COMMENTS: None

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- City Council's decision on the properties on Crest View;
- Project updates on the Thompson Hotel; Dream Hotel, Cameron, Canyon View and Serena Park.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Planning Commission adjourned at 6:45 pm to 5:30 pm, Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way.



David Newell, AICP
Assistant Planning Director