

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
July 24, 2019
Council Chamber, City Hall
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Donenfeld, Garner, Hirschbein, Song, Vice Chair Moruzzi, Chair Woods

Staff Present: Principal Planner Edward Robertson, City Attorney Jim Priest, Special Programs Director Veronica Goedhart, Administrative Secretary Joanne Bruggemans, Engineering Associate Rick Minjares, Associate Planner Glenn 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) and the Planning Services counter by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, July 18, 2019.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

Song, seconded by Donenfeld to accept the agenda as presented.

AYES: Donenfeld, Garner, Hirschbein, Song, Moruzzi, Woods

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

1. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** None

1A. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** None

2. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

2A. **REQUEST BY GRESHAM LOCHNER ON BEHALF OF CURIOUSLY, INC. FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) TO OPERATE A 2,310-SQUARE FOOT CANNABIS MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN A VACANT INDUSTRIAL BUILDING LOCATED AT 1251 MONTALVO WAY, UNIT A, ZONE M-1-P, SECTION 33 (CASE 5.1478-CUP) (ER).**

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Hirschbein, seconded by Song to approve subject to conditions.

AYES: Donenfeld, Hirschbein, Song, Moruzzi, Woods

NAE: Garner

(Final action by Planning Commission.)

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

4. NEW BUSINESS: None.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORTS, REQUESTS AND COMMENTS:

- Chair Woods noted that a discussion on Cannabis facilities was scheduled for the City Council meeting this evening, and urged members of the public present at the meeting to attend and voice their concerns. Chair Woods also made recognitions of the contributions of Vice Chair Moruzzi and Commissioner Song to the City of Palm Springs. The Chair also added that the work of AAC is very valuable to the Commission and should be allowed to conduct project reviews as necessary.
- Commissioner Song reported that the Council will be reviewing the AAC and Planning Commission project review process. She noted that there are discussions to limit AAC review of projects to one time and Planning Commission to two times. She urged fellow commissioners to attend the meeting and add their positions. She is recommending that the AAC be allowed to have at least two review opportunities.
- Commissioner Hirschbein noted that there have not been projects requiring multiple reviews by the AAC. He stated that he is against any restrictions on the AAC's ability to review projects as necessary. Finally, he noted that any such restriction could affect subcommittee review of projects before going to the AAC and the Planning Commission.
- Commissioner Garner reported on the recent cannabis stakeholders' meeting.
- Vice Chair Moruzzi indicated that there must be good reasons the Council is looking into the issue of AAC review. He added that having attended AAC meetings in the past, there are times when deliberations could be shorter.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Councilmember Lisa Middleton noted that she would recommend Study Sessions be allowed under the AAC and the Planning Commission review process of projects, and that such study sessions should not count towards the two review meetings being discussed. And that Staff or AAC/Commission could initiate the study sessions for preliminary review of projects.

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Principal Planner Edward Robertson reported to the Commission that the other two

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cannabis facilities that were referenced during the public comments period are not the same projects as Curiously, Inc. He also reported about a meeting with the owner of TOVA Hotel on North Palm Canyon Drive.

ADJOURNMENT: The Planning Commission adjourned at 4:15 pm to its regular meeting at 1:30 pm, Wednesday, September 11, 2019, City Hall, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way.

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