



CITY OF DESERT HOT SPRINGS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

DRAFT MINUTES

MARCH 11, 2014

6:00 PM

**CARL MAY COMMUNITY CENTER
11711 West Drive, Desert Hot Springs, California**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Gerardi at 6:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Dean Gray, Chuck Parker, Cathy Romero, Vice-Chair Steve Sobotta, and Chairman John Gerardi were present at the call of roll.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Action: Commissioner Gray moved to approve staff recommendation, motion seconded by Commissioner Romero, motion carried 5/0 by the following vote:

<u>Vote:</u>	AYES: 5 - Gerardi, Sobotta, Romero, Parker, Gray
Passed	NOES: 0 - (None)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR

- (CONTINUED ITEM FROM FEBRUARY 27, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION) General Plan/Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Comprehensive Zoning Code Update**
Community Development Director, Martín Magaña
Recommendation: Receive and file.

Martín Magaña, Community Development Director, presented the staff report and answered Planning Commissioner questions.

A discussion ensued.

Chairman Gerardi directed staff to request that the consultant attend any study sessions on this matter.

Commissioners requested that they receive larger maps in the future.

Further discussion ensued.

2. (CONTINUED ITEM FROM FEBRUARY 27, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION) Vortex Specific Plan Review & Discussion

Community Development Director, Martín Magaña

Recommendation: Review and discuss the Vortex Specific Plan and provide direction to Staff.

Mr. Magaña presented the staff report and answered Planning Commissioner questions.

A discussion ensued.

Cliff Lavy, audience member, suggested allowing typical uses for five years.

Further discussion ensued.

Action: Chairman Gerardi moved to recommend that the City Council open the Vortex Specific Plan land use designations for existing buildings to be able to use any of the typical permitted uses, except for public facility transit and private institutions, which would have to go into areas specifically designated for them, for a period of three years, motion seconded by Commissioner Romero.

Commissioner Parker indicated that he planned to vote against the motion because he thought the entire plan should be thrown out and that church locations should not be limited.

Motion carried 4/1 by the following vote:

<u>Vote:</u>	AYES: 4 - Gerardi, Sobotta, Romero, Gray
Passed	NOES: 1 - Parker

STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Magaña reported that he had been appointed Acting City Manager and Rich Malacoff had been appointed Acting Community Development Director.

CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

Commissioner Gray discussed the handling of public information requests, the lack of parks, economic development, Code Enforcement, and requested that the water be turned back on at the park near Save-A-Lot.

Vice-Chair Sobotta requested that staff contact Riverside County Transportation Department to obtain City entry markers, requested removal of illegal payphones, discussed in-lieu parking and the need for vocation training in town.

Commissioner Parker requested that staff add the in-lieu parking item to the next agenda, discussed tree removal at Wardman Park and overall park maintenance.

Commissioner Romero recommended that Planning Commissioners work as a team, look forward and be respectful.

ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

Action: Commissioner Sobotta moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 P.M., motion seconded by Chairman Gerardi, motion carried 5/0 by the following vote:

Vote: AYES: 5 - Gerardi, Sobotta, Romero, Parker, Gray
Passed NOES: 0 - (None)

Minutes prepared by:

Kristie Ramos
Deputy City Clerk