

MINUTES
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
June 24, 2008

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hardy called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Hardy

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Harries, Lowthorp, Hess, Huntley, Bloom, Foote and Hardy

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT (Excused):

OTHERS PRESENT:

Richard F. Pucci, City Administrator
Gary Schley, Public Services Officer
Kathy Lehr, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman Hardy asked if anyone wished to speak on a subject not calendared on the Agenda. There was no public comment.

(1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Hardy asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the May 27, 2008 meeting.

MOTION

Commissioner Harries moved to approve the Minutes of the May 27, 2008 meeting as written.

Ayes: Lowthorp, Huntley, Bloom, Harries, Hess and Hardy

Abstain: Foote

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC HEARING

- (2) Request for a Conditional Use Permit by Bank of America/Coast Signs to increase the allowable 80 square feet of signage at 536 North Main Street, which is located in a C-1 district.

Chairman Hardy opened the public hearing at 7:33 PM and stated that if anyone wished to appeal any decision by the Planning Commission, they may do so by writing to the City Council within five days of this meeting.

The proponent, Nina Gleason/ Coast Signs, 1500 W. Embassy Street, Anaheim, CA (representing Bank of America) stated that Bank of America was changing their logo and they are requesting replacement of the 1 pylon sign and 2 non-illuminating wall signs. The existing pylon sign is now 32' feet high. They are asking for approval for a 25' high pylon sign and they propose to decrease the sign area on the pylon sign by 45 square feet. The wall signs are proposed to increase 20 square feet each. Caltrans has approved the project, except for obtaining an encroachment permit when work begins. She also stated that the signs are not illuminating and actually are less bold than they appear on the plans. Commissioner Lowthorp said that the plans show fluorescent tubing and Ms. Gleason said that this was "generic" and is not applicable to this area.

Commissioner Huntley asked if the existing pylon sign was unsafe. Mr. Schley said that it is not unsafe but we are trying to bring things into code. The proposed pylon sign will be engineered. Chairman Hardy closed the public hearing at 7:45 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

- (3) Request for a Conditional Use Permit by Bank of America/Coast Signs to increase the allowable 80 square feet of signage at 536 North Main Street, which is located in a C-1 district.

Commissioner Foote said that Bank of America is a beautiful building and the large sign is intrusive. She would like to see the sign brought into compliance with our 80 square foot sign ordinance. If they are changing the logo, she feels they should conform to our 80 square foot requirements. It was also suggested bringing the sign down to 25 feet and re-facing existing sign. It is estimated that the building itself is approximately 20' to 24' high.

Another suggestion was bringing the pylon sign down an additional 5 feet and reducing the sign to 48 square feet (A3r on the plan).

Mr. Pucci stated that the Planning Commission could not approve anything tonight if they are suggesting changes in the plans. Bank of America would have to come back with a new design and Caltrans would have to approve the new plan.

It was agreed that the commission would like to see Plan A3r submitted and that the wall signs were acceptable as shown on the plans. They would also like to see the last page (typical wall attachment) of the plans corrected

MOTION:

Commissioner Harries made a motion to continue the request for a conditional use permit to allow Bank of America/Coast Signs to set aside Bishop Municipal Code Section 17.76.100 to their next meeting of July 29, 2008.

Ayes: Harries, Hardy, Foote, Hess, Bloom and Lowthorp

Noes: Huntley

MOTION CARRIES: 6-1

STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Hardy adjourned the meeting at 8:25 P.M. The next scheduled meeting will be July 29, 2008 at 7:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

Chairman Hardy

Kathy Lehr, Secretary