



MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2007, 5:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
245 E. BONITA AVENUE

PRESENT:

Mayor Curtis W. Morris
Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Templeman
Councilmember Emmett Badar
Councilmember Denis Bertone
Councilmember John Ebner

City Manager Blaine Michaelis
City Attorney J. Kenneth Brown
City Clerk Ina Rios
Assistant City Manager of Community Development Larry Stevens
Assistant City Manager Ken Duran
Director of Development Services Dan Coleman
Director of Public Works Krishna Patel
Director of Parks and Recreation Theresa Bruns
Planning Manager Craig Hensley

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morris called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Members of the Audience

There were no comments.

3. PLANNING COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

5:00 p.m.	Arthur Randy Alva
5:25 p.m.	George Forslund
5:50 p.m.	Kathleen Mulligan
6:15 p.m.	Laura Nash
6:40 p.m.	Bob Miars

The five applicants as listed were interviewed by the Mayor and Councilmembers.

RECESS

Mayor Morris recessed the meeting at 7:05 p.m. and reconvened at 7:17 p.m.

It was moved by Councilmember Bertone, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Templeman, to appoint John Davis to the Planning Commission for a two year term. The motion carried 4.1; Councilmember Ebner opposed.

It was the consensus of the Council to consider for future vacancies the applicants that were interviewed Monday and Tuesday, May 14-15, 2007, and consider Kathleen Mulligan for the downtown project and general plan.

It was the consensus of the City Council to consider increasing the Planning Commission stipend. Staff was directed to prepare a Resolution for Council approval at their next meeting.

4. Report and Council direction regarding Open Space program, update and direction regarding possible open space projects and objectives.

Assistant City Manager Stevens reported that at Council's direction an analysis was conducted in December 2005 that identified city and joint use parks. Staff was directed to create criteria on evaluating an open space preservation and acquisition program to pursue grants. Staff identified logical areas for open space preservation and established open space criteria.

Tier I: Mr. Stevens stated that based on the criteria, the data set was assembled into categories or theme and ranked. He added that a link to trails would be highest ranked properties. He reported that from the comparison, it was evident that the Northern Foothills or Walnut Creek properties seemed to be highest ranked and staff focused on those primary opportunities.

Tier II: Mr. Stevens stated that once identified and ranked, it was most important to only pursue the acquisition of land with willing sellers.

Tier III: Mr. Stevens stated there may be funds available outside the grant cycle and if the property is going to be acquired, there is an opportunity to work with the County of Los Angeles and/or the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. He said staff would prepare for Council's approval a Resolution setting forth basic parameters for open space preservation/acquisition program. He outlined the list of criteria to be considered in identifying high priority lands for acquisition. He suggested pursuing grant opportunities as they arise, and prioritizing properties. He recommended completing Tier I Analysis, incorporating Council comments in criteria and weighting, preparing Open Space Preservation Program in resolution form for adoption by City Council; and initiating amendment to Open Space and Conservation elements of San Dimas General Plan.

Mr. Stevens mentioned that Walnut Creek is the first choice and hopes the City gets enough interest from Dentec Properties to be a willing seller.

In response to Mayor Morris, Councilmember Bertone stated that he does not anticipate the Rivers, Mountains Conservancy raising the appraised amount of \$15 million. He added that the property is designated Significant Ecological Area (SEA).

Councilmember Bertone mentioned that Mr. Kim Scott is a willing seller for his northern foothills property, and NJD is anxious to sell their property.

Mr. Stevens indicated that Mr. Kim wants an access letter through Mr. DeFalco's property or Cataract. He mentioned that it is the owner's responsibility to provide access and said the City is a minor participant for the property. He thought the County of Los Angeles might be interested in purchasing the property.

Councilmember Ebner stated that all open space is worth preserving. He agreed Walnut Creek had the highest priority; however, he thought it would be good to acquire and preserve easements to the wild wood area of NJD.

It was the consensus of the City Council to authorize staff to prepare Tier I Analysis and prepare a Resolution for adoption.

Mr. Stevens mentioned that Mr. McHenry is working with the County to acquire his property. He added that City of San Dimas got the highest reduction on the RHNA numbers, and a grant will be issued.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m. The next meeting is May 22, 2007, 5:00 p.m. for a discussion of the City of San Dimas 2007-08 Budget.

Curtis W. Morris, Mayor of the City of San Dimas

ATTEST:

Ina Rios, CMC, City Clerk