



Minutes
Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission
Wednesday, November 13, 2024
Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION – 6:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Library Director Vinke in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Edward (E.J.) Caldwell, Desiree M. Galassi, Mara Lang, Ron Maroko, Christopher McCauley, Jeffrey E. Rowe, Chair Masood K. Yousufzai

Officials Present: Dana Vinke, Library Director
Gary Margolis, Cultural Arts Manager
Kelly Orta, Deputy Community Services Director
Becca McNeely, Library Program Coordinator

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Yousufzai led in the Salute to the Flag.

D. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Chair Yousufzai and approved by voice vote, the order of the agenda, as amended, moving Item No. L.1 before Item No. J.

The motion carried 7-0.

In reply Commissioner Maroko's question about having continued an item from the last agenda regarding a discussion of by-laws, Library Director Vinke noted he mentioned it staff would need additional time to return with the relevant information.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS

E.1 For Blue Folder Documents

Library Director Vinke reported there were no items included in Blue Folder Items.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13, 2024

F.2. Commissioner Maroko pulled this item for separate discussion.

F.3. RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATES AND GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING RECREATION AND PARKS-RELATED ITEMS

CONTACT: ELIZABETH HAUSE, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

F.4. Commissioner Maroko pulled this item for separate discussion.

Commissioner Maroko pulled Items No. F.2 and F.4 for separate discussion and consideration.

There were no public comments on this item.

Motion by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Maroko, and approved by voice vote, the Items No. F.1 and F.3 of the Consent Calendar.

The motion carried 6-1-0. Chair Yousufzai was opposed.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - None

F.2. APPROVE THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2024

Commissioner Maroko mentioned the Commission had talked about bringing back the by-laws and consideration of other committees; stated the latter was not listed in the minutes; talked about the Chair asking him to return with ideas for other committees and wondered when he will be able to present them.

Chair Yousufzai suggested Commissioner Maroko could discuss it under Item No. K.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Commissioner Galassi, and approved by voice vote, Item No. F.2.

The motion carried 7-0.

F.4. RECEIVE AND FILE LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Commissioner Maroko asked for an update regarding the digitization process and Library Director Vinke noted the project is still in progress and there is no update.

Motion by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Chair Yousufzai, and approved by voice vote, Item No. F.4.

The motion carried 7-0.

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

H.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

There were no public comments on this item.

I. EX PARTE COMMUNICATION – None

Chair Yousufzai moved to Item No. L.1, per the amended order of the agenda.

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS

J.1. A PUBLIC HEARING CONSIDERING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATIONS FOR THE REHABILITATION OF FIVE RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 4, TITLE 10 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE

**APPLICANT: DAVID KAPLAN, KAPLAN CHEN KAPLAN
ADDRESS: 216 - 218 N. CATALINA AVENUE
APPLICATION NO: COA-2024-04/COA-2024-05**

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. Open public hearing and administer oath;**
- 2. Take testimony from staff, applicant, and interested parties;**
- 3. Close public hearing and deliberate; and**
- 4. Adopt a resolution by title only approving the request subject to the findings and conditions contained therein:**

A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA APPROVING A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THREE RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES IN A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT, AND ADOPTING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 216 NORTH CATALINA AVENUE PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 10 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE

A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA APPROVING A CERTIFICATE OF

APPROPRIATENESS FOR THE REHABILITATION OF TWO RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES IN A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT, AND ADOPTING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 218 NORTH CATALINA AVENUE PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 10 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE

Senior Planner Giang narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the proposed rehabilitation project.

Discussion followed regarding the application review process.

David Kaplan, Applicant, Kaplan, Chen, Kaplan, reported working with Senior Planner Stacey Kinsella on the project and spoke about the 10-year maintenance plan and the Mills Act.

Discussion followed regarding the Commission's review of the overall concept and Certificate of Appropriateness for rehabilitation, next steps, the use of standardized language in the Resolution and the Mills Act funding process.

Motion by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Maroko, and approved by voice vote, to open the public hearing.

The motion carried 7-0.

Discussion followed regarding rehabilitating the exteriors, whether the fence at the front of the property is appropriate for the style of the house (Craftsman), the need to address building and safety matters with the City in terms of railings, Building Code requirements regarding stair railings, differences between major and minor alterations, consideration by the Minor Alterations Subcommittee, conforming with Building and Safety Codes and the timeline for completing the work.

Commissioner Galassi suggested having the Minor Alterations Subcommittee review fence revisions and the Applicant agreed to submit a design as soon as possible.

There were no public comments on this item.

Motion by Chair Yousufzai, seconded by Commissioner Maroko, and approved by voice vote, to close the public hearing.

The motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Commissioner Lang, seconded by Commissioner Maroko, and approved by voice vote, to adopt resolutions by title only approving the request subject to the findings and conditions contained therein: A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA APPROVING A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR THE

REHABILITATION OF THREE RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES IN A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT, AND ADOPTING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 216 NORTH CATALINA AVENUE PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 10 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE and A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA APPROVING A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR THE REHABILITATION OF TWO RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES IN A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT, AND ADOPTING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 218 NORTH CATALINA AVENUE PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 10 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE, as amended and contingent upon review of the fence design by the Minor Alterations Subcommittee.

The motion carried 7-0.

J.2. A PUBLIC HEARING CONSIDERING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION FOR A REAR ADDITION AT THE DESIGNATED HISTORIC PROPERTY LOCATED AT 305 NORTH FRANCISCA AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. Open public hearing and administer oath;**
- 2. Take testimony from staff, applicant, and interested parties;**
- 3. Close public hearing and deliberate; and**
- 4. Adopt a resolution by title only approving the request subject to the findings and conditions contained therein:**

A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH APPROVING A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION FOR A REAR ADDITION AND ADOPTING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION FOR THE DESIGNATED HISTORIC PROPERTY LOCATED AT 305 NORTH FRANCISCA AVENUE PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 10 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE

Chair Yousufzai opened the public hearing.

Senior Planner Giang narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the proposed rehabilitation project.

Discussion followed regarding removal of the existing tree, installation of the existing rear deck, information regarding the original owners, differentiating the historical home from the new addition, architecturally, continued tracking historic homes and the history of renovations that were made, taking direction from the Preservation Ordinance and

addressing staffing challenges in Building and Planning.

Chair Yousufzai invited public comments.

There were no public comments on this item.

Motion by Chair Yousufzai, seconded by Commissioner Maroko, and approved by voice vote, to close the public hearing.

The motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, and approved by voice vote, to adopt resolutions by title only approving the request subject to the findings and conditions contained therein: adopt a resolution by title only approving the request subject to the findings and conditions contained therein: A RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH APPROVING A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION FOR A REAR ADDITION AND ADOPTING AN EXEMPTION DECLARATION FOR THE DESIGNATED HISTORIC PROPERTY LOCATED AT 305 NORTH FRANCISCA AVENUE PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 4, TITLE 10 OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE.

The motion carried 7-0.

K. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS

Commissioner Maroko presented his ideas for potential committees including Bringing History to the Community, which could focus on the Museum, outdoor historical displays/plaques, a speakers forum coordinated with the Library and the possibility of a history symposium. Commissioners McCauley and Maroko volunteered to serve on that committee.

Library Director Vinke noted the need to set clear objectives and a timeline for reaching them and suggested the Commission and staff may want to think about the idea and return with specific agenda discussion items.

Chair Yousufzai agreed and added that a discussion needs to be agendized regarding establishing the Commission's by-laws and addressing existing committees from the former Commissions that were consolidated and recommended having the by-laws established prior to the creation of new committees.

Commissioner Maroko offered to work with staff to develop criteria and reiterated his recommendation to establish a Bringing History to the Community committee.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, to establish a Bringing History to the Community committee focused on the Museum, outdoor

historical displays/plaques, a speakers forum coordinated with the Library and the possibility of a history symposium.

Commissioner Caldwell suggested that it would be more appropriate as a City-wide club to involve residents; expressed concerns that the consolidated commission, with various committees, dealing with so many different topics, will be a lot of work for staff; spoke about the intention of committees and subcommittees to make progress between Commission meetings; noted that the group may be worthwhile but did not believe it requires a committee or subcommittee.

Commissioner Maroko spoke in support of the motion; mentioned many projects that are hanging, which the committee could address, such as the Path of History Markers and commented on getting the energy moving.

Commissioner Rowe left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Discussion followed regarding the three existing committees (Minor Alterations, Facility Users and Volunteer Acknowledgments).

Library Director Vinke spoke about the Library Commission having operated for many years without by-laws; felt the Commission can operate effectively, without having official by-laws and noted one of his goals is to make efficient use of time and meetings and to bring back a discussion regarding by-laws, as soon as possible.

Discussion followed regarding whether staff liaisons are required to attend committee meetings, determining the needs of the committee, identifying when committees meet and maintaining open communication, determining deadlines for ensuring items are agendaized properly and adding an item on the agenda to allow for committee/subcommittee updates.

Commissioner Maroko stated this would be an ad hoc committee until the Commission decides to make it a permanent one and establishes by-laws but stated he would not have a problem with continuing it. He reiterated his recommendation including the scope of the committee.

Discussion followed regarding making it a committee focused on the history of the City, determining the liaison for the committee, and alleviating issues for staff between meetings.

Commissioner Maroko restated the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, to establish a Bringing History to the Community committee focused on the Museum, outdoor historical displays/plaques, a speakers forum coordinated with the Library and the possibility of a history symposium and be comprised initially, of Commissioner Maroko and Commissioner McCauley.

The motion carried 7-0, by voice vote.

Chair Yousufzai moved to Item No. M as Item No. L was discussed prior to Item No. J.

L. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

L.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A “SPECIAL DONATIONS” REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF A PLAQUE AT RIVIERA VILLAGE PARK

CONTACT: GARY MARGOLIS, CULTURAL ARTS MANAGER

Cultural Arts Manager Margolis narrated a PowerPoint presentation with details of the Commemorative Donation Program and specifically, a special request by the Vilarino Family for installation of a plaque at Riviera Village Park.

Discussion followed regarding costs for installation and maintenance, whether staff has discussed this project with the City of Torrance, the need for Torrance to “buy in”, no anticipated objections by Torrance, confirming with Torrance prior to purchase and installation, next steps and reasons for delays.

In response to questions from Commissioner Maroko, Deputy Community Services Director Orta explained options considered by staff and the Vilarino Family in bringing the item forward, which contributed to delays and reported that the Director is eager to hear from the Commission and wants its input to make a determination.

In further response to Commissioner Maroko’s question, Deputy Community Services Director Orta reported that staff has no major concerns with moving forward with the project.

Discussion followed regarding responsibility for maintenance, olive trees in other areas of Riviera Village, the original olive tree planted in 1969, the Family’s history in caring about the park and approval by the Riviera Village BID.

Commissioner Maroko offered a brief history of the park and the Vilarino Family’s involvement.

Discussion followed regarding possible legal concerns.

Cultural Arts Manager Margolis asserted that nothing will be done until all approvals are in place; reported that the Family did research to confirm that a portion of the park that includes the circle is owned by Redondo Beach and mentioned it would be appropriate for the Commission to discuss the proposed wording.

Chair Yousufzai invited public comments.

Ron Vilarino, son of Joe Vilarino, a merchant in Riviera Village for 50 years, via Zoom, reported the proposed tree is a miniature olive tree and is fruitless; noted their intent is to replace something that was once there but is not missing and mentioned efforts by Riviera Village merchants trying to beautify the area. In addition, he responded to questions from the Commission and mentioned the consolidation of donor names into the new plaque.

Discussion followed regarding recognizing the contributions of Aviation High School, the need to refine the text by adding historical points, highlighting the importance of the efforts, and ensuring acceptance by the City of Torrance.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko to direct staff to work with the Vilarino Family on perfecting the language for the text and direct staff to communicate with the City of Torrance and obtain their agreement.

Cultural Arts Manager Margolis noted that the Commission may make recommendations to staff but may not direct staff.

Commissioner Maroko disagreed.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Chair Yousufzai pointed out the Commission's advisory role and noted the Commission is providing input and recommended that the City work with the Vilarino Family to make determine the appropriate language for a plaque.

Discussion followed regarding approving the language in the plaque first, getting a maintenance agreement between the two cities, letting staff work with the Family, having the text reviewed by a professional and having complimentary plaques on opposite ends.

Ron Vilarino reported the Family is open to the Commission's input and suggestions in cleaning up the text.

Discussion followed regarding micromanaging versus giving staff the discretion to work with the applicant.

Deputy Community Services Director Orta added that the Commission could provide input to staff, staff can provide that to the Director, and she can consider the Commission's input in her final approval.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, to recommend moving forward with the proposed project from the Vilarino Family.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Discussion followed regarding meeting the established criteria, the need to make fonts consistent with other plaques in the vicinity, using concise language, ensuring the plaque states a clear story, the length of the proposed text, whether the Commission wants to review the revised text or approve the project conditioned on the revised design and text, highlighting the financial contributors and the existing olive tree.

Chair Yousufzai suggested asking staff to consider revisions for the design of the plaques, including font and design consistency with other plaques in the immediate vicinity and to continue the item to an upcoming meeting to consider design and language.

Commissioner Galassi suggested the that motion be subject to the revision of wording for clarity and font design.

Chair Yousufzai suggested that it could be a substitute motion but noted the need to review what the plaque will look like before approving it.

Ron Vilarino mentioned their willingness to revise the design and text and discussed it being compatible with the existing design.

Commissioner Caldwell noted the simple question is whether the Commission is willing to recommend that the Director approve a special request; reported the resolution outlines what they allowed to do and the proposed project conflicts with it and wondered whether the Commission is willing to accept it or recommend that they approve it and expressed concerns that the proposed tree is not a recommended species.

Motion by Commissioner Caldwell, seconded by Commissioner Lang, and approved by voice vote, to support the special request made by the Vilarino Family and request that the Community Services Director work with any member of the Commission and the Vilarino Family regarding the appropriate language, as discussed above and contingent upon the approval of the City of Torrance.

The motion carried 7-0.

Chair Yousufzai returned to Item No. J.1.

M. MEMBER ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF

Commissioner McCauley provided an update on the Facility Users Committee and announced the Committee is meeting next Thursday at Veterans Park at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Galassi reported working with Deputy Community Services Director Orta who is working on adding information about pickleball to the City website and spoke about the Alta Vista Pickleball Court need for a sound study.

Commissioner Maroko mentioned locating framed letters from Presidents of the United States to display in the Museum; talked about improving the metrics of the Museum; suggested doing a census/survey of Museum visitors; announced the Holiday Celebration hosted by the Redondo Beach Historical Society; encouraged everyone to visit the Museum and The Morrell House; talked about displaying the material that has been created regarding the City Charter at the Library on January 19, 2025, which is the 76th Anniversary of the City Charter and asked about the possibility of using the studio in the Library to display historical vignettes about the City.

Library Director Vinke reported the room is used as storage but is available for rent by groups and the public and mentioned a brief history and offered to look into the topic.

Chair Yousufzai mentioned eBike signage a Dale Page Park and commended Recreation and Parks staff keeping the parks well maintained.

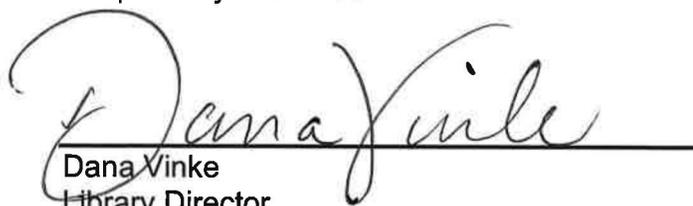
N. ADJOURNMENT – 9:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Public Amenities Commission, motion by Chair Yousufzai, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. to a regular meeting to held at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 in the Redondo Beach City Hall Council Chambers 415 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. Redondo Beach, California.

Motion carried, 7-0.

All written comments submitted via eComment are included in the record and available for public review on the City website.

Respectfully submitted:


Dana Vinke
Library Director