

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA
PLANNING COMMISSION**

January 25, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chair de Arakal called the Zoom webinar meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chair de Arakal read a COVID-19 statement indicating how the public can participate in the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair de Arakal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY APPOINTED PLANNING COMMISSIONERS BY CITY CLERK.

The City Clerk administered the oath of office to Council-appointed Planning Commissioners Kedarious Colbert, John Stephens, Russell Toler, and Jon Zich.

Chair de Arakal opened the floor for comments from new and reappointed Commissioners.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Byron de Arakal, Vice Chair Kedarious Colbert, Commissioner Dianne Russell, Commissioner John Stephens, Commissioner Russell Toler, Commissioner Jenna Tourjé, Commissioner Jon Zich

Officials Present: Director of Economic and Development Services Jennifer Le, Assistant City Attorney Tarquin Preziosi, City Engineer Seung Yang, City Clerk Brenda Green, and Recording Secretary Julie Colgan

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- 1. Selection of Chairperson: Director Le declared nominations open for Chairperson and called for Commission vote.**

Public Comments – None

Director Le declared the position of Chairperson of the Planning Commission open and asked for nominations.

MOTION: Commissioner Stephens nominated Commissioner de Arakal as

Chair.

Moved by Commissioner Stephens, seconded by Commissioner Colbert.

The Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: de Arakal, Colbert, Russell, Stephens, Toler, Tourjé, Zich

Nays: None

Absent: None

Recused: None

Motion carried: 7-0

ACTION: Appointed Commissioner de Arakal as Chairperson of the Planning Commission.

2. Selection of Vice Chairperson: Director Le declared nominations open for Vice Chairperson and called for Commission vote.

Public comments – None

Director Le declared the position of Vice Chairperson of the Planning Commission open and asked for nominations.

MOTION: Commissioner Tourjé nominated Commissioner Colbert as Vice Chair.

Moved by Commissioner Tourjé, seconded by Commissioner Russell.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: de Arakal, Colbert, Russell, Stephens, Toler, Tourjé, Zich

Nays: None

Absent: None

Recused: None

Motion carried: 7-0

ACTION: Appointed Commissioner Colbert as Vice Chairperson of the Planning Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation recognizing Mark Perkins for his service to the City

Chair de Arakal spoke briefly about Mark Perkins' service on the Planning Commission.

Director Le presented former Commissioner Perkins with a proclamation for his service to the City.

Mr. Perkins provided comments and thanked the Commission.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Perkins for his role and his impact on the Commission.

Chair de Arakal expressed his appreciation and thanked Mr. Perkins for his contributions and encouraged him to keep sharing his ideas.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

Wendy Leece congratulated new appointments and reappointments to the Commission. She stated her opposition to LED signs at Triangle Square, and concern for mobility, potential property damage, and potential loss of life. She gave an update on the online petition opposing the project.

Katie Arthur wished the Commissioners Happy New Year and welcomed new appointments and reappointments. She stated her opposition to LED signs, electronic billboards, and safety concerns for bikers and pedestrians at Triangle Square.

Steven Chan provided three videos for Commissioners regarding ongoing noise and disruption concerns behind Smart & Final and STRUT Bar & Club. He requested the Commission and City Staff take action.

Chair de Arakal asked Director Le to provide an update on the issue.

Director Le provided an update on measures taken so far and what future steps will be taken.

The Chair closed public comments at 6:48 p.m.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

Commissioner Stephens thanked Commissioners. He noted it was the 1-year anniversary of the helicopter crash, which killed John Altobelli and eight others. He requested Staff look into renaming Monarch Way at OCC after the late Mr. Altobelli.

Commissioner Russell wished everyone a Happy New Year, and congratulated everyone on appointments and reappointments. She spoke about supporting local business and maintaining COVID-19 practices.

Commissioner Tourjé spoke about affordable housing and the Housing Element, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and new zoning requirements. She indicated concern about the possibility of displacement of current residents at multi-family units due to the City rezoning/upzoning to meet the requirement, and the unintended consequences for the community. She advocated for the City to develop a comprehensive Community Engagement Plan for the future.

Commissioner Zich thanked the Chair and congratulated fellow Commissioners. He further expanded on displacement in the community and land-use planning and the importance of public engagement. He stated the importance of the City's website and City News email notifications for residents.

Commissioner Colbert congratulated Director Le on her promotion, and spoke on the diversity of the Commission. He noted the importance of urban planning since the start of the pandemic and the importance of representing all people in Costa Mesa on planning matters. He requested Commissioners and Staff watch the presentation by The Kinder Institute on Transportation Equity, which he previously provided. He also thanked City Council for his appointment.

Chair de Arakal thanked fellow Commissioners for the appointment to Chair. He congratulated Director Le on her promotion. He acknowledged her work on the appeal before the SCAG Committee. The City has to plan for 11,733 residential units without displacing current residents. He stated his commitment to ensuring Costa Mesa has a Housing Element that meets requirements for RHNA/SCAG but is fair to residents.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on December 14, 2020.

2. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on November 23, 2020.

3. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 26, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on October 26, 2020.

4. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 12, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on October 12, 2020.

5. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on September 28, 2020.

6. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on September 14, 2020.

7. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF AUGUST 10, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on August 10, 2020.

8. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 27, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on July 27, 2020.

9. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 13, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on July 13, 2020.

10. MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 22, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes of a meeting of the Planning Commission held on June 22, 2020.

Public Comments – None

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Russell to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 – 10.

Moved by Commissioner Russell, seconded by Chair de Arakal.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: de Arakal, Colbert, Russell, Stephens, Toler, Tourjé, Zich

Nays: None

Absent: None

Recused: None

Motion carried: 7-0

ACTION: Planning Commission approved Consent Calendar items 1 – 10.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT(S):

1. Public Services Report – Acting City Engineer Seung Yang introduced himself to the Commission and reported that there were no Public Works reports.

2. Development Services Report – Director Le provided a status report on the RHNA/SCAG Committee appeal denial noting the Department will move forward with the 11,733-unit allocation. Public outreach for the Housing Element update has commenced, and an update will be scheduled for Commissioners in the near future.

CITY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE REPORT(S):

1. City Attorney – Mr. Preziosi had no report.

Chair de Arakal requested Mr. Preziosi provide updates regarding any future housing legislation updates from Sacramento.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Chair Colbert asked Director Le for an update regarding Education First project and confirmation that the Triangle Square item will be on the February agenda.

Director Le gave an update on Education First – due to the pandemic, the construction timeline has been delayed. The Triangle Square application is scheduled to be on a February Planning Commission agenda.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:28 P.M.:

Submitted by:



JENNIFER LE, SECRETARY
COSTA MESA PLANNING COMMISSION