

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL
PLANNING COMMISSION
December 20, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Austin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Commission Secretary conducted roll call.

Present: Chair Devon Austin
 Vice Chair Shannon Murphy
 Commissioner Tom Benson
 Commissioner Jane Fallon
 Commissioner Rose Richárd

Staff present:

- 1) Community Development Director Scott Charney
- 2) Senior Planner Colleen Doan
- 3) Assistant City Attorney Gina Chung
- 4) Senior Engineering Technician Anthony Caraveo

In addition, there were 3 people in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Austin led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no public business from the floor.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

a. 2017 Work Plan

Senior Planner Colleen Doan gave the staff report.

Commissioner Benson commented on the Courtyard residential project.

Chair Austin asked about the hiring process for the Assistant Planner position.
Staff updated the Commission on the status of the hiring process.

Commissioner Benson commended staff for their dedication to several major projects within the City. He also asked if staff has insight on any upcoming 2017 action items from the State. Staff responded they will keep the Commission informed once information is received from the State.

Vice Chair Murphy asked about the Signal Hill Petroleum (SHP) drill sites Conditional Use Permit (CUP) extension. Staff gave a brief report on the CUP extension status and noted that the current extension expires June 30, 2017.

The Commission received and filed the report.

b. Standby and Round-Up for the 2017 Homeless Count Event

Senior Planner Colleen Doan gave the staff report.

The Commission and staff joined in a discussion regarding the current state of homelessness and the resources available for the homeless population from local, state and federal levels.

Commissioner Benson applauded Signal Hill Police Department's effort in patrolling the neighborhood routinely to ensure the safety of the residents and the homeless persons.

The Commission received and filed the report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Commissioner Benson and seconded by Commissioner Richard to receive and file Consent Calendar Item Nos. 6a to 6e.

The motion carried 5/0.

COMMISSION NEW BUSINESS

The Commission wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Benson complimented the use of mulch for dust control of the vacant lots between 20th and 21st Streets and Temple and Molino Avenues and suggested recognizing properties that incorporate mulch in their landscaping. Staff reported that meetings with the developer of the vacant lots had been positive and the developer is diligent in keeping the lots clean.

Commissioner Benson asked about the fences used around SHP's oil wells. Staff responded that they are in close contact with SHP and SHP is in a leadership position to create a landscape template for their oil well properties.

Commissioner Benson commented on the growing homeless population along the Spring Street corridor and asked what the Police Department's plan is in addressing homelessness in the City. Staff responded that they will follow-up.

Commissioner Benson inquired about a City of Long Beach owned parcel at the corner of Cherry Avenue and Burnett Street, which is a part of land where the View Park is going to be constructed. Staff advised that our City is in discussions with Long Beach to designate that area for park use.

Vice Chair Murphy asked when the new Assistant Planner is expected to start. Staff explained the hiring process and stated that the new Assistant Planner is expected to start in February of 2017.

Vice Chair Murphy signed up as a standby volunteer for the Homeless Count event. Staff reiterated that the Homeless Count is a safe and meaningful event where volunteers will be accompanied by Police Officers and will remain in the vehicle when doing the count.

Chair Austin asked if the Homeless Count is also conducted during daytime. Staff responded that the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority also conducts daytime counts throughout the year. Chair Austin also mentioned that she adopted a homeless family and was able to provide them with 30 days of shelter and supplies.

Chair Austin stated her observation of cars driving through the traffic pylons in the left turn lanes on Cherry Avenue at the E. Willow Street intersection. Staff responded they will forward this concern to the Public Works Department.

Chair Austin asked about the Grinder property adjacent to Fresh and Easy. Staff responded the property is owned by the Successor Agency.

Commissioner Benson thanked the Deputy City Manager for organizing a well-planned employee luncheon.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Benson and seconded by Commissioner Richárd to adjourn to the next regular meeting of the Planning Commission to be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, CA, 90755.

The motion carried 5/0.

Chair Austin adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Devon Austin
Chair

Attest:

Scott Charney
Commission Secretary