



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE SOLVANG
DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

August 19, 2021
Thursday
5:00 p.m.

1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Committee Members Patrick Cavanaugh, Joy Culley, Brian Deputy, Esther Jacobsen Bates, and Jennifer Dryden Hess

STAFF: Xenia Bradford, City Manager/Planning Director; Laurie Tamura, Contract Planner; David Packard, Assistant to the City Manager

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Committee Member Jacobsen Bates led in the Pledge to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, AS PRESENTED

Motion by Committee Member Jacobsen Bates to approve the agenda, as amended, seconded by Committee Member Culley, and carried, unanimously, 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING ON JUNE 17, 2021, AND JULY 22, 2021

Motion by Committee Member Jacobsen Bates to approve the minutes of June 17, 2021, and the minutes of July 22, 2021, as presented, seconded by Committee Member Culley, and carried, unanimously, 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chair Cavanaugh opened public comments on items not on the agenda.

Tracy Beard, Solvang Chamber of Commerce

- Spoke about signs on City property
- Felt there was miscommunication regarding QR Codes that were displayed
- Expressed concerns regarding the lack of Code Enforcement

Chair Cavanaugh closed public comments.

2. SUB-COMMITTEE REVIEW – STATUS UPDATE

A. 539 Alisal Road APN 139-143-004

Owner: Darkstar Development, LLC Erik Vasquez

Zoning: DR-20 Zone

This 11-unit condominium project was approved by the Planning Commission on November 2, 2021. This project was previously reviewed by the old BAR for colors and materials. The condition of approval required that the project return to the review body DRC. This is the final review of colors, materials, lighting, and landscaping. The DRC approved all the elements of the project but directed the applicant to provide darker option for the timbers. A Subcommittee was formed to work with the applicant to develop a recommendation for timber colors to be brought back to the DRC for final approval. The applicant had requested continuation of the application. Staff is working with the applicant and with Subcommittee to review the history of this project and develop options.

City Manager/Planning Director Xenia Bradford provided a brief background of the item and deferred to Contract Planner Laurie Tamura for a report.

Contract Planner Tamura narrated a PowerPoint presentation with a summary of the project, previous direction by the DRC and review by the Planning Commission and discussed the proposed alternative new timber colors.

Committee Member Jacobsen Bates suggested moving forward with review by the Sub-committee in order to verify color samples and encouraged staff to advise applicants of the need to provide actual paint swatches for review by the DRC.

Chair Cavanaugh opened public comments.

There were no public comments.

Chair Cavanaugh closed public comments.

Committee Member Jacobsen Bates discussed review of lighting components and Contract Planner Tamura reported it was reviewed through the Building Department; noted they applicant complied with dark sky requirements and the item will be presented at the next DRC meeting.

Motion by Committee Member Culley to refer the item back to the Sub-committee to verify color samples and return to the DRC for ratification of the Sub-committee's decision, seconded by Committee Member Deputy, and carried, unanimously, 5-0.

3. PROJECT RECONSIDERATION

A. 1659 Copenhagen Drive APN 139-189-012

Applicant: Joseph Ogden, Dowdle Gallery/Dowdle Puzzles

Owner: John Peterson

Zoning: TRC Zone District

Request for approval of new signs for the Dowdle Gallery/ Dowdle Puzzles. There are three proposed signs for the Gallery and two for Dowdle Puzzles.

Two 15" x 29" hanging signs located at the corner entrance

Two 22" x 44" project sign in the eaves of the upper façade.

One 20.75" x 30" wall sign place for Dowdle Puzzles.

Contract Planner Tamura narrated a PowerPoint presentation; reported the applicant is working with the City on their proposed sign plan and reviewed details of same.

Discussion followed regarding the projection signs, compliance with the sign ordinance and the cut-out metal on the projection sign.

Chair Cavanaugh opened public comments.

Joseph Ogden, Applicant

- Discussed their logo in gold versus in color

There were no other public comments.

Chair Cavanaugh closed public comments.

Motion by Committee Member Hess to approve the new signs for the Dowdle Gallery/ Dowdle Puzzles, as presented, seconded by Committee Member Culley, and carried, unanimously, 5-0.

B. 1631 Mission Drive

Applicant: Jim Knell

Owner: Jim Knell SIMAS Corp.

Zoning: TRC Zone District

At the last meeting the DRC approved for renovations of the existing building including patio, fencing, installed of French doors, and landscaping. The last item was to review colors of the building.

Contract Planner Tamura narrated a PowerPoint presentation; discussed the DRC's prior consideration and direction; presented details of the proposal; addressed the fencing surrounding the patio area and landscaping; spoke about the color of the building and the proposed finish on the fencing.

Chair Cavanaugh opened public comments.

Tony Cano, Agave Design Group

- Discussed the proposed finish on the fencing
- Presented samples of the proposed roofing materials

There were no other public comments.

Chair Cavanaugh closed public comments.

Motion by Committee Member Culley to approve the natural stain for the porch area, the paint colors as proposed and the roofing materials as presented, seconded by Committee Member Deputy, and carried, unanimously, 5-0.

4. PLANNING STATUS REPORT – STATUS ON PAST ACTIONS AND UPCOMING ITEMS

City Manager/Planning Director Bradford provided an update on the progress being made on past actions and on upcoming items; discussed an upcoming joint meeting of the City Council and the Planning Commission to review the vision and guiding principles of the General Plan and addressed the Old Lumberyard project.

Discussion followed regarding the possibility of scheduling a joint meeting with the Planning Commission for conceptual review of major projects.

City Manager/Planning Director Bradford continued with her report addressing sign enforcement.

Discussion followed regarding the importance of supporting local businesses, making Downtown more walkable, implementing rules fairly and equitably, the possibility of getting regular updates of past projects and the process for addressing non-compliance of rules.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Committee Member Jacobsen Bates spoke about incorporating a request for applicants to explain how their color choices fit within approved Design Guidelines and requested colors for the different elements of a project be specifically called out.

Committee Member Culley talked about updating the Design Guidelines and requiring color swatches with the submittal of applications.

6. CITY STAFF COMMENTS


A. Calendar for 2021

Contract Planner Tamura discussed the calendar for the next DRC meeting; noted staff will not receive anything for the agenda later than two weeks before a meeting and listed items including in the agenda for the next DRC meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:

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XENIA BRADFORD
City Manager/Planning Director