

CITY OF ARCATA
PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Approved as amended August 23, 2011 by unanimous vote

COUNCIL CHAMBER
736 F Street, Arcata, CA 95521

August 9, 2011
Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

A complete record of this meeting can be viewed by visiting the City's Website (www.cityofarcata.org) and clicking on "Watch Live Meetings" to access the Planning Commission Archives to view the Granicus Telecast. Approved minutes are found on the Commission/Committee website.

- I. **ROLL CALL.** Commissioners Present: Robert Flint (Chair), Julie Vaissade-Elcock (Vice Chair), Chuck Giannini, Judith Mayer, and Daniel Tangney. Currently, there are two vacancies on the Planning Commission.
- II. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS.** A public member requested the Commission consider the need for publicly accessible recycling containers.
- III. **CONSENT CALENDAR.** On motion by Vaissade-Elcock, second by Giannini, and unanimous voice vote, with Tangney abstaining administratively on approval of minutes for July 26, the Commission approved the consent calendar.
- IV. **PUBLIC HEARINGS.**
 - A. **North Coast Preparatory Academy (NPA) Charter High School Coastal Development Permit (File # 089-022-CDP).** The Commission heard a brief staff report, the applicant's agent addressed the Commission stating they understood and agreed to the Conditions of Approval, and the Commission adopted the negative declaration and approved the project adopting the findings and then the conditions with modifications requested by staff in three separate motions made by Mayer and seconded by Vaissade-Elcock, Tangney, and Tangney, respectively. All voice votes were unanimous.
 - B. **Dickinson Minor Use and Hillside Development Permit (File # 101-118-HD-MUP-HDRC).** The Commission received a staff report and a presentation by the applicant, then accepted public testimony. John Forsythe addressed the Commission on several items of concern on the project, including parking, street width, off-street parking safety, vision clearance at 13th and lower Bayview, and the retaining wall along the western edge of the development. The Commission deliberated the concerns, directed questions to staff and the applicant, allowed the applicant to address the Commission on the concerns, and adopted the CEQA exemption and the Action, thereby approving the Conditions of Approval and Findings for the project, on motion by Giannini and second by Tangney followed by unanimous voice vote.
 - C. **SaiCenter Use Permit (File # 090-024-UP).** Commissioner Tangney recused himself from this item citing financial interest in a business located within 500 feet of the proposed location of the SaiCenter. The Commission accepted a staff report and a presentation by the applicant during which he asked the Commission to provide a decision at the current hearing. The Commission received public testimony and allowed the applicant to respond to the public. One public member testified that he had witnessed patrons of the iCenter redistribute medical cannabis outside of the storefront and had been offered cannabis by persons claiming the iCenter as the source. He also claimed that there was plenty of retail foot traffic that would be impacted if a dispensary was allowed to open at the proposed location. A local resident testified that the Commission should deny based on the special considerations at the current meeting. A business owner testified to the same argument. These public members said the site was too close to residential parcels, the plaza, and the other dispensaries. The Commission continued the hearing to its regularly scheduled August 23, 2011 meeting on motion by Vaissade-Elcock, second by Giannini, and unanimous voice vote.

D. **Humboldt State University Corporation Yard Coastal Development Permit (File # 090-037-CDP).** The Commission received an introductory presentation by the applicant and agent to introduce the project, and opened the hearing for public testimony. None was received. Staff described the primary issue on the project was the filling of wetlands and explained that there are limited circumstances where a coastal wetland may be filled. Staff explained that the reason provided by the university along with the public access nexus, may provide justification but reiterated that no analysis on the project had been conducted. Staff asked the commission if the project appeared to be heading in the right direction. The Commission responded affirmatively. No action occurred.

V. BUSINESS ITEMS.

- A. **City of Arcata Local Coastal Program (LCP).** Staff provided an update, the Commission asked several questions and discussed various options, and directed staff to proceed as outlined by staff.
- B. **Elect Chair and Vice-Chair.** On motion by Vaissade-Elcock, second by Tangney and unanimous vote, Flint was re-elected as Chair. On motion by Mayer, second by Tangney, and unanimous vote Vaissade-Elcock was re-elected Vice-Chair

VI. CORRESPONDENCE. NONE

VII. COMMISSION / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS.

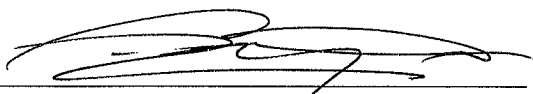
- A. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS. **NONE**
- B. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS. **NONE**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT. 10:26 P.M.

Arcata Municipal Code Section 2204.B Commissions. If any member of a commission is absent for four regularly scheduled meetings in a calendar year, the secretary to the commission shall certify that fact to the Council and the Council shall thereafter declare the position on the commission to be vacant.

<u>2011 Meetings</u>	Jan 11	Jan 25	Feb 8	Feb 22	Mar 8	Mar 22	Apr 12	Apr 26	May 10	May 24	Jun 14	Jun 28	Jul 12	Jul 26	Aug 9	Aug 23	Sep 13	Sep 27	Oct 11	Oct 25	Nov 8	Nov 22	Dec 13	Dec 27
Vacant																								
Robert Flint	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	S	X	X									
Chuck Giannini	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	S	X	X									
Vacant																								
Judith Mayer	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X	X	O	S	O	X									
Daniel Tangney	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	X	X	X	X	X	S	O	X									
Julie Vaissade-Elcock	X	X	X	X	X	O	*	X	X	X	X	X	S	X	X									

Note: Chair Flint; Vice Chair Vaissade-Elcock. Staff Liaisons: David Loya/Joe Mateer
 X = present; O = absent; *= no meeting; S= special meeting (not considered regular attendance)

Attest: 
David Loya, Deputy Director