

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (NICC)

Community Meeting Center, Council Chamber
11300 Stanford Avenue

Monday, March 2, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIR PHAM
VICE CHAIR BLACKMUN
COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD
COMMISSIONER FLANDERS
COMMISSIONER HANSSEN
COMMISSIONER NEWBOLD
COMMISSIONER SWAIM

Absent: Pham

ALSO PRESENT: Greg Blodgett, Economic Development Manager; Monica Covarrubias, Sr. Project Manager; Omar Sandoval, City Attorney; Nate Robbins, Senior Program Specialist; Judy Moore, Recording Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Flanders.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.

MINUTES: It was moved by Commissioner Flanders and seconded by Commissioner Crawford, to receive and file the Minutes from the October 7, 2019 Meeting. The motion carried by a 6-0 vote as follows:

Ayes: (6) Blackmun, Crawford, Flanders, Hanssen, Newbold, Swaim
Noes: (0) None
Absent: (1) Pham

SELECTION OF CHAIR: Commissioner Swaim nominated Commissioner Blackmun as Chair, seconded by Commissioner Hanssen. The motion carried with a 6-0 vote as follows:

Ayes: (6) Blackmun, Crawford, Flanders, Hanssen, Newbold, Swaim
Noes: (0) None
Absent: (1) Pham

Commissioner Blackmun assumed the duties of Chair.

SELECTION OF VICE CHAIR:

Motion 1: Commissioner Crawford nominated herself as Vice Chair.

Motion 2: Commissioner Hanssen motioned to postpone the selection of Vice Chair to the April 13th meeting in order for Commissioner Pham to be present, seconded by Commissioner Flanders. The motion carried with a 5-1 vote as follows:

Ayes: (5) Blackmun, Crawford, Flanders, Hanssen, Newbold
Noes: (1) Swaim
Absent: (1) Pham

By consensus, the Substitute Motion became the Main Motion, therefore Motion 1 was not applicable.

REVIEW OF THE CODE OF ETHICS: The Commission reviewed and acknowledged the Code of Ethics governing the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission.

BROWN ACT: City Attorney, Omar Sandoval, presented an outline of the Brown Act to the Commission.

MATTERS FROM STAFF: 2019 HOUSING ELEMENT ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT (APR): The staff report dated March 2, 2020 was introduced. Staff provided the Commission the opportunity for engagement, discussion, and input on the City's progress in implementing the 2013-2021 Housing Element.

Staff stated that the Housing Element was one (1) of the seven (7) mandatory elements of the General Plan. The Housing Element specified ways in which the housing needs of existing and future residents could be achieved. Consistent with the State Housing Element law, Housing Element progress must be analyzed annually and the Element itself updated every eight (8) years.

To that end, the City was required to produce an Annual Progress Report (APR) on the status of the Housing Element in order to monitor progress in addressing housing needs and goals. The APR includes information on the City's progress in addressing its Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA), which includes the number of new units constructed; the number of existing units rehabilitated; the number of units permitted by the City; and the status of programs listed in the Housing Element.

As determined by the Southern California Association of Government (SCAG), Garden Grove's fair share allocation of housing units during the 5th RHNA Cycle was 747 units. The report outlined the progress as of planning year six (6) of the 8-year cycle.

Staff recommended that the NICC:

- Review and issue comments regarding the Housing Element Annual Progress Report, and
- Recommend its transmittal to the City Council.

It was moved by Commissioner Hanssen and seconded by Commissioner Swaim, to accept staff's recommendation to transmit the Housing Element Update to the City Council. The motion carried by a 6-0 vote as follows:

Ayes: (6) Blackmun, Crawford, Flanders, Hanssen, Newbold, Swaim
Noes: (0) None
Absent: (1) Pham

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS: Division Manager, Greg Blodgett, and Sr. Project Manager, Monica Covarrubias, both from the City's Office of Economic Development/Neighborhood Improvement Divisions, introduced themselves to the Commission and were available for contact if Commissioners had questions.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS: Commissioner Hanssen acknowledged the good work done in her district by Council Member John O'Neill, the police department, and code enforcement, for ensuring 'pop-up tent' vendors who sell, for example, phones or insurance, were legally permitted.

Commissioner Swaim mentioned that he sat in for Commissioner Flanders on the ESG Collaborative volunteer position, working with Tim Throne, and noted that the event was a great learning experience and encouraged other Commissioners to take part. He then asked if the NICC packet could be sent digitally as well as the paper version and asked to be sent the link for the online agenda. Lastly, he recognized Chair Blackmun being chosen as Woman of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Newbold then brought attention to the City's adopt-a-tree program, which for \$55, a tree would be planted in a residential parkway, and noted he would canvas his neighborhood residents to encourage them to adopt and once again have tree-lined streets. He also encouraged the City to provide an online payment feature to accept the fees. He then mentioned that an isolated area, behind the water pump station, in the far-east side of West Grove Park, needed better lighting as people use the spot to camp overnight pushing the dark area to be a future hazard. Lastly, he pointed out that West Grove residential tract street signs were faded and needed to be replaced as a whole.

Staff responded that for street signs needing replacement, a form could be filled out online with a response from Public Works in one to two days, however, Public Works would be contacted as general replacement was needed.

Chair Blackmun asked what process was used to report and clean-up private properties with junk all around. Staff replied that Code Enforcement would be the point of contact for problem properties and, if necessary, follow-up would include notices and fines for violations.

Commissioner Flanders noted that all types of complaints could be input on the City's website as well as the app.

Commissioner Flanders asked if mosquito issues could be reported to the City. Staff responded that the lead contact would be County Vector Control, however, Code Enforcement could also be contacted.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

The next Meeting of the Neighborhood Improvement and Conservation Commission will be a Special Meeting held Monday, April 13, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove, CA.

Judy Moore
Recording Secretary