

MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice Chair Commissioner Griffith.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Woods led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Karen Mantele, Planner, Maria Ehorn, Minute Clerk

Present: Benningfield, Woods, Griffith,

Absent: White

AGENDA REVIEW: Vice Chair Griffith asked if there were any changes to the agenda by staff or Commissioners. Staff and Commission had no changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Vice Chair Griffith introduced the item.

City Councilman, Jeff Williams, spoke on behalf of himself stating he wanted to clear the air. He stated he appreciated the work the Planning Commission does and while things got a little heated at the last City Council meeting, it was not directed at the Planning Commission as any type of insult to the job they do.

Mark Fowler spoke making a suggestion to invite movie companies to come to Willows to make use of several locations to make their movies.

Doug Ross remarked on Mr. Fowlers comment, stating a few years back an item went before the City Council regarding a New York company looking to do just that but did not know if it ever got off the ground.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Discussion was held between the Commission and staff regarding the item 7. c #UP-16-02 from the February 17, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Woods spoke and stated she would like the minutes to reflect a more detailed account of the item's discussion including the denial of the request for exemption since there is an appeal going forward. Vice Chair Griffith concurred. Discussion was held between staff and Commission regarding the information to be detailed and a consensus arrived at. Staff then asked the Commission if they wanted the changes to be made administratively or to continue the approval of the minutes until the next scheduled meeting. The Commission concurred that the changes could be made administratively per the Commission's direction to staff. Commissioner Woods moved to approve the Minutes of the Planning Commission Meeting held February 17, 2016 with the changes to be made as discussed with staff. It was seconded by Commissioner Benningfield.

AYES: GRIFFITH, WOODS, BENNINGFIELD

NOES: NONE

ABSTENTION: NONE

PUBLIC HEARING(S)/NEW BUSINESS:

Annual HCD Housing Element Progress Report for period from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015
Commission review/comments

Vice Chair Griffith introduced the agenda item. Ms. Mantele presented the agenda report to the Commission. A short discussion was held between the Commission and staff regarding the report and attachments included with the report.

Commissioner Woods moved to forward the Housing Element Progress Report as presented to the City Council. It was seconded by Commissioner Benningfield.

AYES: GRIFFITH, WOODS, BENNINGFIELD

NOES: NONE

ABSTENTION: NONE

COMMISSION COMMENTARY:

1. Commissioner Woods stated she saw new signage on the old Bank of America building and was wondering if they came in to get their permits. Ms. Mantele stated that yes a sign permit was approved for the sign change. Staff was contacted about adding more signage. Staff informed them they could add more signage but it would require a use permit.
2. Ms. Mantele stated there is no project scheduled at the moment for the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2016.
3. Commissioner Woods asked if the other Commissioners went to a conference. They replied no as it was full and no spaces were available.
4. Vice Chair Griffith stated he will be attending a 2 day sustainability conference in Chico next week.
5. Ms. Mantele said that an email went out to all the Commissioners regarding the Planners Academy that had links to some good information. Also, Ms. Mantele stated she would like to update the Commissions handbooks to more current information.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 pm.

