

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2008**

The Joint Meeting of the City Council and the Planning Commission of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, was held on the 9th day of September, 2008, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., in the Police/Fire Conference Room, 400/420 15th Street, in said City.

ROLL CALL

Present: City Council: Aldinger, Cohen and Mayor Montgomery.
Planning Commission: Powell, Fasola, Paralusz and Lesser
Staff: City Manager Dolan and Community Development Director Richard Thompson

Absent: Councilmembers Tell and Ward and Commissioner Seville-Jones

Clerk: Geoff Dolan (Acting).

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Kaye Sherbak commented on the Volunteers and Organizations Improving the Community's Environment (VOICE) meeting held the previous night; the Public Works Department's presentation on public tree pruning; the City's tree donation policy; other public tree planting opportunities, including those for volunteers; and the Street Tree Inventory Study that the Public Works Department completed in 2000. She also suggested that the Tree Ordinance be revised to be more flexible.

SCHEDULED

09/09/08.1 Review 2008-2009 City Council Work Plan Items Involving the Planning Commission

1. Storm Water Retention
 - a. Storm Water Retention and b. Landscaping

Community Development Director Richard Thompson outlined the Work Plan item and indicated that these two issues will be studied together. The group discussed balancing building safety/structural engineering concerns of on-site water retention versus environmental issues of minimizing off-site run-off. A variety of options will be explored.

2. Sustainable Buildings
 - a. Green Building Standards and b. Green Building Resources Center-

Director Thompson summarized these two Work Plan items. He indicated that there are a variety of resources available for Green Building and the City already has some information on the website.

Mayor Montgomery indicated that the Environmental Task Force should review any information before the Planning Commission or City Council.

3. Tree Ordinance

Director Thompson stated that a status report on the Ordinance is anticipated to come before the Council in March. The Council will review the Ordinance and determine at that time if revisions are needed. Staff held a public workshop with the Tree Committee at the end of May and is following up on the Tree Trimmers Permit.

4. Economic Development Sepulveda Corridor

Director Thompson indicated that this report will be presented to the Council on September 16, 2008. The Council discussed their wish to include a discussion of economics Citywide and downtown.

City Manager Dolan indicated that this is a starting point and, if desired, could be expanded in the future.

5. Housing Element

Director Thompson indicated that it is a state requirement that cities adopt housing elements and the goal is to have an Element that is certified by the State. It is anticipated that the Housing Element will be presented to the Commission in November. The Commission and Council discussed state requirements and different options for meeting those requirements.

09/09/08.2 Discussion Regarding Planning Commission Issues

The Council stated that they welcomed the Commissions ideas and input on any issues, not just those items that come before the Commission on their agenda and the new Boards and Commissions Handbook details the process.

Commissioner Powell discussed a number of ideas for Green initiatives and the Council indicated that these will be addressed by the Task Force and many are already included in the Green Book.

Commissioner Paralusz indicated that as a newly appointed Commissioner she is looking forward to learning and participating.

Chairman Lesser indicated that he appreciated the opportunity to meet and discuss policy with the Council.

Commissioner Fasola discussed the zero population growth concept to address global warming.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to the 5:30 p.m. Adjourned Regular Meeting to be followed by the 6:30 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2008, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue, in said City.

Richard Thompson
Recording Secretary

Richard Montgomery
Mayor

ATTEST:

Liza Tamura
City Clerk