

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF
COSTA MESA PLANNING COMMISSION
August 10, 2009**

The Planning Commission of the City of Costa Mesa, California, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., August 10, 2009, at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Righeimer.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

Commissioner McCarthy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL: Chair: James Righeimer
Vice Chair: James Fisler
Commissioners: Sam Clark, Colin McCarthy, and Stephen Mensinger

Present: Chair James Righeimer
Vice Chair James Fisler
Commissioner Sam Clark
Commissioner Colin McCarthy
Commissioner Stephen Mensinger

Absent: None.

Also Present: Assistant Planning Commission Secy. Claire Flynn
Deputy City Attorney Christian Bettenhausen
Management Analyst Hilda Veturis
Senior Planner Mino Ashabi

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chris McEvoy, Costa Mesa, commended Commissioner McCarthy for his comments at the July 21, 2009 City Council meeting relating to high density housing. Mr. McEvoy also voiced his concern that the density of the Westside and the City should not be increased.

The Chair pointed out that at 6:30 p.m. the Commission will be adjourning to a Study Session-Training Session. He asked if anyone wished to make public comments at this time and there was no response.

IV. PLANNING COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

Commissioner Mensinger made a PowerPoint presentation on the renovation of Estancia High School's Football Training Center and invited everyone to attend the Grand Opening on August 20, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. He announced that Pop Warner Football started two weeks ago and the first scrimmages will be on Wednesday night, August 12, 2009, and this Saturday, August 15, 2009. He invited everyone to attend Estancia's Jim Scott Stadium to watch the scrimmages. He also explained about the mentoring program involving high school boys in Costa Mesa instilling football values to the younger boys.

Commissioner McCarthy commented on the Orange County Fair and the National

Night Out Against Crime event last Tuesday. He also expressed concern regarding delays in building construction at various property sites and construction hours on Sundays and construction noise related to absent homeowners.

Vice Chair Fisler confirmed with Assistant Planning Commission Secretary Claire Flynn that minimum work space is reflected in Table A2 (Live/Work Development Standards) of the revised Mesa West Bluffs Urban Plan and positively commented on the addition of minimum work space.

The Chair pointed out that the State has put the Orange County Fairgrounds up for sale. He said this property has a general plan and zoning for fairground use, and the value of the property is based on what it is zoned for. He explained that a non-profit group could purchase this property and keep it as it is now, but any change to the property use would have to be approved by both the Planning Commission and the City Council. He also wished his wife a happy birthday.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Minutes for the meeting of July 13, 2009

MOTION: Approve.

Moved by Commissioner Sam Clark, seconded by Commissioner Colin McCarthy.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair James Righeimer, Vice Chair James Fisler, Commissioner Sam Clark, Commissioner Colin McCarthy, and Commissioner Stephen Mensinger

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of Title 13, Section 13-118.1, Temporary Signs on Public Property, and Section 13-118.2, Banners on Public Baseball and Softball Fields, of the Costa Mesa Municipal Code.

Assistant Planning Commission Secretary Claire Flynn reviewed the information in the staff report and responded to a question from the Commission regarding the length of time involved in initiating a Zoning Code amendment. Deputy City Attorney Christian Bettenhausen suggested making a finding pursuant to the existing provisions of the Zoning Code and the Chair and Mr. Bettenhausen discussed the intent of Code Section 13-118.1(a). In addition, Ms. Flynn and Mr. Bettenhausen responded to questions from the Commission regarding the origin and actual language of Code Section 13-118.1, and how to present a finding in the motion so that Group 3 users may apply for temporary sign or banner permits under the existing provisions of the Code.

No one else wished to speak and the Chair closed the public hearing.

MOTION: 1. Direct staff to prepare a Zoning Code amendment to clearly allow Group 3 users to apply for temporary sign or banner permits on

public property and/or public baseball/softball/soccer fields.

2. Make a finding pursuant to Title 13, Sections 13-118.1, 13-118.1A, and 13-118.2 of the CMMC that Group 3 users can apply for temporary sign(s) or banners on public property, pending consideration of a Zoning Code Amendment.

Moved by Commissioner Sam Clark, seconded by Commissioner Stephen Mensinger.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair James Righeimer, Vice Chair James Fidler, Commissioner Sam Clark, Commissioner Colin McCarthy, and Commissioner Stephen Mensinger

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The Chair explained the appeal process.

VII. REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

None.

VIII. REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: ADJOURN TO THE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PLANNING COMMISSION TRAINING SESSION AT 6:30 P.M. IN CONFERENCE ROOM 1A. NEXT REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING AT 6:00 P.M. ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2009.

There being no further business, Chairman Righeimer adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m. to the immediately following Planning Commission Training Session at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room 1A. The next regular Planning Commission meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on September 14, 2009.

Submitted by: _____
CLAIRE FLYNN, ASST. SECRETARY
COSTA MESA PLANNING COMMISSION