

City of Calistoga Planning Commission

Agenda Item Summary

DATE

March 25, 2015

ITEM

Draft Minutes of February 25, 2015 Meeting

COMMISSIONER

ABSENCES

None

ABSTENTIONS

None

RECOMMENDATION

Approve minutes with any necessary changes

MINUTES

CALISTOGA PLANNING COMMISSION February 25, 2015

- 1 The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.
- 2 A. ROLL CALL
- Commissioners present: Chair Jeff Manfredi, Vice Chair Carol Bush, and Commissioners Scott Cooper, Paul Coates, Tim Wilkes. Absent: None. Staff present: Planning & Building Director Lynn Goldberg, Senior Planner Erik Lundquist.
- 6 B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 7 C. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- 8 None.
- 9 D. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA
- The meeting agenda of February 25, 2015 was accepted as presented.
- 11 E. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE
- None.

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- F. CONSENT CALENDAR
 - 1. Commission Minutes
 - The February 11, 2015 minutes were unanimously adopted as presented.
 - 2. General Plan Annual Report
 - A motion by **Chair Manfredi** to recommend that the City Council accept the report was seconded by **Commissioner Coates** and approved unanimously.
- G. PUBLIC HEARINGS
 - Zoning Ordinance Amendment ZOA 2014-6: Consideration of a recommendation to the City Council regarding an amendment to the Downtown Commercial Zoning District to allow off-site automated teller machines (ATMs)
 - Senior Planner Lundquist presented the staff report for the item. The Commission considered a request to amend the DC Downtown Commercial Zoning District to allow free-standing off-site ATMs at a public hearing on January 14, 2015, and after discussion and public comments, continued the matter in order for staff to work with the applicant on language that would allow off-site ATMs to be integrated with an existing building. Staff has drafted language that would allow off-site ATMs through the approval of a use permit, with specific performance standards to ensure consistency with General Plan policies and preserve, protect and enhance Calistoga's quality of life and rural small-town character. The applicant has accepted the draft language.

Chair Manfredi noted that the proposed regulations would allow off-site ATMs in the Community Commercial District as well as the Downtown Commercial District.

Chair Manfredi opened and closed the public hearing after there were no comments.

In response to questions from the Commission, Mr. Lundquist advised that Bank of America was considering applying for a use permit to keep the ATM in its current location, but that would depend on what happens with the disposition of the property.

A motion by **Commissioner Cooper** to adopt a resolution recommending that the City Council amend the DC Downtown Commercial and CC Community Commercial Zoning Districts to allow off-site ATMs was seconded by **Chair Manfredi** and approved unanimously.

- 2. General Plan Amendment GPA 2015-2 & Zoning Ordinance Amendment ZOA 2015-4: Consideration of a recommendation to the City Council regarding a request to designate the properties located at 1213 and 1303 Foothill Boulevard from Low Density Residential to Downtown Commercial General Plan land use designation and to rezone the properties from R-1-10 One-Family Residential to DC Downtown Commercial zoning district
 - Mr. Lundquist presented the staff report for the item. Although no formal plans have been presented, the applicants intend to integrate the residence at 1303 Foothill Boulevard with the Craftsman Inn. Since the operation would be considered a hotel instead of a bed and breakfast, the properties, which are currently designated residential, must be reclassified to a commercial land use designation and zoning district. The Craftsman Inn property already has a commercial appearance. Designating the properties Downtown Commercial would provide an opportunity to create a development that complements the entry way. Through the redevelopment of the property, there is an opportunity to achieve some of the pedestrian and bicycle improvements that would otherwise not be provided by existing residences. However, the Land Use Element prohibits the loss of housing through its conversion to commercial uses and requires a one-for-one offset, so a replacement unit would need to be provided if the expansion of the Craftsman Inn and conversion of the existing single-family home occurs.

In response to a question from **Commissioner Bush**, Mr. Lundquist responded that payment of an in-lieu fee would not be possible as the General Plan policy is worded.

In response to questions from **Commissioner Wilkes**, Mr. Lundquist responded that the setbacks for the Downtown Commercial District are less restrictive than the R-1-10 District, however, a 20-foot setback is required from Foothill. The allowable lot coverage and building height are also much more generous. The DC District requires a five-foot side yard setback for the project adjoining a

residential district. An existing driveway also provides some separation from the residence to the west.

In response to a question from **Commissioner Cooper**, Mr. Lundquist responded that there is no set time frame for the City to consider rezoning the properties back to residential if the project is not developed.

In response to a question from **Commissioner Wilkes**, Mr. Lundquist responded that is not possible to "sunset" the reclassifications.

Chair Manfredi opened the public hearing.

Nick Kite, applicant, reviewed his successful rehabilitation of the Craftsman Inn at an important gateway to town. They would like to incorporate the adjoining residence with the Craftsman Inn and give an integrated appearance to both properties. They will return with specific designs as part of a use permit application once this first step has been taken. They do not intend to construct any buildings that are large or tall; buildings will be low-rise.

In response to a question from **Commissioner Wilkes**, Mr. Kite confirmed that he had spoken with the neighbor to the west about his plans. They are on good terms and the neighbor is aware of the proposed reclassifications. The neighbor's house has very few openings on the side adjoining the subject properties. He will share any future plans with him. **Commissioner Wilkes** urged the applicant to take the neighbor's property into consideration when developing plans for the project.

Mr. Lundquist confirmed that the neighbor in question had received a public hearing notice for the proposed reclassification actions.

Chair Manfredi closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Coates observed that the city's housing stock is disappearing to second home owners and the city does not benefit; he could easily see the residence at 1303 Foothill being purchased as a second home. Rezoning the properties to allow further commercial development would at least result in a financial contribution to the community.

Chair Manfredi opined that the Commission should provide a recommendation to the Council regarding the appropriateness of a development agreement for the reclassifications and project, and comment on the internal conflict in the General Plan as to whether the converted dwelling unit needs to be replaced. An in-lieu housing fee could be exacted through a development agreement. However, he doesn't think the project is large enough to warrant a development agreement. It's up to the Council to decide how to make good on the loss of the unit.

Commissioner Wilkes observed that development agreements are usually triggered by a need for housing for persons that will be employed by a project or to off-set specific costs to the community from a project. Neither of those cases exists in this situation. He supports the reclassification because it would support the project the applicant has in mind, but would like to recommend to the Council

Planning Commission Minutes February 25, 2015 Page 4 of 4

that if the project doesn't go forward, the reclassification be revisited after a certain period.

Chair Manfredi proposed recommending that if the applicant hasn't made any progress within three years on the project in the opinion of the Council, then a possible rezone could be referred to the Commission. There was no objection to this proposal from the applicant.

A motion by **Commissioner Wilkes** recommending that the City Council redesignate the properties located at 1213 and 1303 Foothill Boulevard from Low Density Residential to Downtown Commercial General Plan land use designation and to rezone the properties from R-1-10 One-Family Residential to DC Downtown Commercial zoning district, with an additional recommendation that the Council reconsider the reclassifications in three years if no progress has been made on developing the property, was seconded by **Chair Manfredi** and approved unanimously.

H. MATTERS INITIATED BY COMMISSIONERS

None.

I. DIRECTOR REPORT

Planning & Building Director Goldberg requested that the Commission cancel its March 11th meeting due to a lack of items that are ready for its consideration, and the Commission concurred.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Lynn Goldberg
Planning Commission Secretary