

Item 9: Appeals of Planning Commission Action – Determination to summarily deny or set a hearing date for two separate appeals

Su Sneddon

From: Richard Spittler
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 1:01 PM
To: Su Sneddon
Subject: FW: Chanric Inn Appeal

CITY OF CALISTOGA
City Clerk

FEB 15 2011

From: Robert Hairston
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 12:11 PM
To: Michael Dunsford
Subject: Chanric Inn Appeal

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Robert Lane Hairston, Jr.

Dear Council Members:

I beseech you to dismiss appeals against the Chanric Inn and to agree to hear the Chanric Inns Appeal alone.

The Chanric Inn has been an important source of income for me, as an independent contractor, during tough economic times. I have worked in the Napa and Sonoma Valleys for over ten years now and have found the Chanric into be a wonderful addition to the vitality of business, economic growth, and culture of Calistoga and Napa Valley.

I have been so thrilled over the years at the awards the Chanric Inn has received and at the pleasure their service has given to so many national and international guest making Calistoga an extremely desirable destination, unique to other venues in Napa Valley. The clients that I've had the privilege to work with at the Chanric Inn are some of the happiest most satisfied people I've seen at any of the establishments I've worked at. The guest visit local businesses such as the wineries, shops in Calistoga, and restaurants thus stimulating our economy.

To cause the Chanric Inn to close would not only hurt our economy and the well being of those who rely on them as a viable source of income but would also be a grave injustice.

So Please consider the Chanric Inns Appeals:

- In the appeal filed by people opposing The Chanric Inn, none of the reasons cited in their appeal are based on the merits of the application or the Zoning Code used by the Planning Commission to grant approval. There is no justifiable reason this appeal should be heard: It should be summarily dismissed.
- The City has set precedence by approving two other B&Bs and The Chanric meets all of the same guidelines. The Chanric has a legal right to fair treatment.
- The Chanric Inn has followed exactly what the City has asked them to do: They helped the City to update the B&B regulations, they operate within their current six room limit, they've applied for a new Use Permit to allow eight units with no resident manager.

They meet all of the zoning code regulations to have eight rooms and live off the property. A ruling against them would not only be legally unfair, it would stifle any other bed and breakfasts to come forward and apply under their rights.

- It's unfair that two other B&B's were accepted by the Planning Commission, but The Chanric was denied the same rights. Furthermore, it is not the Planning Commission's role to enforce regulations: It is the City of Calistoga's responsibility to enforce code.
- The Chanric Inn has been a big contribution to the community through participation in the Chamber, promoting Calistoga to bring more visitors, generating TOT and stimulating other local businesses.
- It would be a terrible loss to our community if the Chanric Inn is forced to close.

Sincerely:

Robert Hairston