

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA HABRA
June 22, 2020

THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA TELECONFERENCE. The public was able to participate by either calling in or sending an email.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nigsarian called the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of La Habra to order at 6:32 p.m. The Commissioners, the public and Staff conducted the meeting telephonically through Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: LED BY COMMISSIONER MUNOZ

PRESENT: (via phone) COMMISSIONERS: NIGSARIAN
MANLEY
POWELL
MUNOZ
BERNIER

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

OTHERS PRESENT:
DIR. OF COMM. DEV.: HO
PLANNING MANAGER: RAMSLAND
ASSOCIATE PLANNER: LOPEZ
COMM. DEV. SECRETARY: LOPEZ
PLANNING COMMISSION SECRETARY: GONZALEZ

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chair asked if there was anyone on the phone conference or who had sent an email that wished to comment on any item not listed on the agenda. There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Chair explained the Consent Calendar procedures. He asked if there were any members of the public on the phone conference, or who had sent an email, or any Commissioners that wished to have any item removed. There were none.

Moved by Commissioner Munoz, seconded by Vice Chair Manley to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passed.

1. Approving the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2020.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Consideration of a request for Conditional Use Permit 20-02 to establish a dog kennel in conjunction with a pet grooming business (Pampered Paws) at 558-572 West La Habra Boulevard.

Associated Planner Lopez presented the staff report.

The Chair asked if any of the Commissioners had any questions.

Commissioner Munoz asked staff if the existing business has a kennel. Associate Planner Lopez responded the existing business does not.

Vice Chair Manley asked for clarification if there will be staff on-site 24 hours. Associate Planner Lopez explained there will be someone available on-site when the kennel is utilized.

Chair Nigsarian asked about noise complaints and how they will be handled. Associate Planner Lopez stated conditions had been placed on the CUP to address noise, and explained that Condition No. 1 required the kennel portion of the business to be closed if noise complaints are received and prohibited from operating until measures are taken to address the noise.

The Chair opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone on the phone conference, or who had sent an email who wished to speak in favor of the request.

Shawn Cook, 1051 Bonnie Anne Court, La Habra, commended the Commission on having due diligence and stated that he is a patron of the current business. He stated he has taken his two dogs for the past six years noting the facility is maintained clean and well sanitized and that he was happy for their expansion.

Lillia Granado, 415 West First Avenue, La Habra, stated she has been a customer for the past four years and expressed she is happy and they provide top notch care for animals. She added this shopping center needs businesses and noted that it has many empty buildings and has become a gathering place for the homeless and that the property is unkept. She stated this is a great opportunity.

Marian Salazar, 621 Lemon Street, La Habra, reaffirmed the previous speakers. She stated that this would be a win-win for everyone by bringing businesses to the plaza which has been vacant for a long time and expressed her support for the request.

Kathy Parsons, 261 North Marian, La Habra, stated that she has been a customer of Pampered Paws for many years. She stated they do a beautiful job and would be a great benefit to the City.

Director Ho stated staff had received six emails in support of the project and asked Community Development Secretary Lopez to read them into the record.

Michael Francis, 312 West Whiting Avenue, Fullerton, wrote he has been a customer for three years and has never been disappointed with their services. He was referred to Pampered Paws by another customer and has since referred friends that have had their pets well taken care of.

Kathy Parsons, Southland Sheltie Rescue Inc., stated she has lived in La Habra for over thirty years and has known owners and employees of Pampered Paws for almost as long. They have taken their pets and also rescued pets and they have taken very good care of them. She expressed that Tracy and the employees are a wonderful asset to the community and that she looks forward to their expansion.

Elizabeth Vanderheul states she lives in Huntington Beach and appreciates their care for her two dogs at Pampered Paws. She added while she waits that she takes the opportunity to complete her shopping in La Habra.

Rick and Karen Bureson, 241 East Country Hills Drive, La Habra, wrote in support of Pampered Paws becoming a grooming and boarding facility. They currently drive to Anaheim Hills or Corona to board their dog in a reputable facility and it would be more convenient to do so in La Habra. They further expressed that this is a clean, well-run business, they care well for the pets and asked for the Commission's favorable consideration.

Ashleigh Schaefer stated she does not live within the project area but a friend who does shared a copy of the public notice. This friend babysits her children on Saturdays while she works and that she will not allow her children to walk to the center "...because of homeless living in and around the empty buildings." She noted "there is trash, human waste, used condoms and homeless persons asking or harassing for money." She further stated "since the building has been empty for years wouldn't any business be better than no business and just a camp for homeless drug addicts." Ms. Schaefer included two photographs of the empty storefronts with trash and debris.

Alberto Perez, Casa Adelita Co-owner, wrote that Pampered Paws has been his business neighbor for many years and that many of their customers patronize his restaurant as well as other La Habra businesses. Mr. Perez expressed this would be a great asset to the City and asked for the Commissioner's favorable consideration.

The Chair then asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition to the request. There were no emails nor anyone on the conference call that wished to speak in opposition.

There being no further speakers, in favor or in opposition, the Chair closed the public hearing and asked for Commissioner comments or a motion.

Commissioner Munoz commented he is happy to see La Habra businesses growing.

Vice Chair Manley expressed he is impressed with the residents expressing their confidence for the business and that he is excited for the next chapter for Pampered Paws.

MOVED BY Vice Chair Manley, seconded by Commissioner Bernier, APPROVING RESOLUTION NO. 20-24 ENTITLED: A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LA HABRA APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 20-02 TO ESTABLISH A DOG KENNEL IN CONJUNCTION WITH A PET GROOMING BUSINESS AT 558-572 WEST LA HABRA BOULEVARD, MAKING THE APPROPRIATE FINDINGS, AS PER THE APPROVED PLANS AND SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: MANLEY, BERNIER, MUNOZ, POWELL, NIGSARIAN
NOES: COMMISSIONERS: NONE
ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONERS: NONE
ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: NONE

COMMENTS FROM STAFF

Director Ho informed the Commissioners that he will contact them in the next week to discuss logistics on future meetings. He stated the July 13th meeting will also be conducted telephonically through Zoom.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bernier commented Pampered Paws is a great project and happy to be part of this approval.

Chair Nigsarian welcomed Pampered Paws to the City of La Habra and thanked everyone.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Gonzalez Avila
Planning Commission Secretary