



DESIGN COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 28, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Erwin called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM in the Council Chambers, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

ROLL CALL:

Chair Richard Erwin; Vice-Chair Colin Brandt; Commissioners Susanne Foster, Lara Sanderson, Tami Szerlip, and Hui Tian were present. Commissioner Daniel Hubbell was excused.

STAFF PRESENT:

Shana Restall, Principal Planner; and Christina Schuck, Assistant City Attorney were present.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the October 14, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Sanderson motioned to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foster. The minutes were approved as written by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Agenda Item #1: Finding of Fact for Preliminary Design Review of the 7420 LLC Townhomes Development – 7420 SE 27th Street (DSR15-007)

Shana Restall, Principal Planner, presented the draft findings to the Commission. The Design Commission asked questions of staff and provided corrections and revisions to the draft findings. The Commission also asked questions of Christina Schuck, Assistant City Attorney.

Commissioner Sanderson motioned to approve the Design Commission's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as amended denying the application for a townhome development to be located at 7420 SE 27th Street (project number DSR15-007) and to authorize the Chair to sign the findings on behalf of the Design Commission. Commissioner Tian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

The Design Commissioners also discussed a letter from the applicant, Gary Nash, to the Design Commission dated October 27, 2015. In his letter, Mr. Nash asserted that a development previously approved for the subject site complied with the design standards in effect at the time of the project's design approval in 2007. The Design Commission determined that the previous project was irrelevant to Mr. Nash's proposal and that the design approval for the previous development had expired. Furthermore, the site context and perceptions of development in the vicinity have changed since 2007. Mr. Nash's current proposal was analyzed for its conformance to the current code and was determined, on its own merit, to not be in compliance.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None was discussed.

PLANNED ABSENCES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

No planned absences were announced.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

The next regularly scheduled meeting is December 9, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shana Restall, Principal Planner