

**NEVADA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2010**

Chairman Dix Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Dix Sullivan, Vice-Chairman Bob Wright, Commissioners John Parent, Greg Wolters, Evans Phelps

ABSENT: None

CITY STAFF PRESENT: City Planner Cindy Siegfried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 7, 2010 MOTION by Wright, Second by Parent and CARRIED to approve minutes of January 7 2010 (4-0)

HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC: Comments on items not on the agenda are welcome at this time, limited to three minutes. However, action or discussion by the Commission may not occur at this time. None.

TRAINING/DISCUSSION:

City Planner Reports

- a. Report on upcoming projects/applications

City Planner Cindy Siegfried reminded the Commission of the Strategic Planning meeting to be held January 25, 2010, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Also, the City Council meeting of January 27, 2010 will include a presentation of the California Preservation Conference and the Commissioners are urged to attend.

Staff has prepared the 2009 annual Planning Commission Activity Report which will be presented to the Commission and the Council in February.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW – Inside Historical District

1. **437 Broad Street – John Sanchez, Owner** – Application for addition of window in front of home, and color change and repairs to carriage house on rear of property.

Mr. John Sanchez was present and reviewed his project. He desires a front window on the second floor and reviewed the Commission's packet information. Several of the homes in the area have such a window and the Commissioners agreed that the home probably originally had a window in this location. The Commissioners also agreed that Mr. Sanchez has done an excellent job restoring this home and Commissioner Wright noted the enhanced appearance of the home from the Spring Street side.

Motion by Commissioner Parent, Second by Wright to approve the window addition as presented. **Motion carried 4-0 (Phelps absent)**

Mr. Sanchez reviewed the proposed carriage house repairs, noting that everything will be like-for-like and he is looking to restore the wood work and doors. Mr. Sanchez proposes painting the carriage house the same color as the home, which was approved by the Commission in 2009. The Commission agreed to continue to have Commissioner Parent act as liaison and oversee the project with Mr. Sanchez. This will ensure that

ordinance is being adhered to and that the work does not become a demolition project. Commissioner Parent can also provide the full Commission with update reports.

Motion by Wolters, Second by Parent, to approve the restoration and painting of the carriage house, noting the repairs to the carriage house were “like-for-like” and that any future remodeling or restoration would come before the Commission. The Planning Commission appointed Commissioner John Parent to act as Liaison with you on this project. He was also directed to provide the Commissioners with periodic updates on the project. **Motion carried 4-0 (Phelps absent)**

STAFF PRESENTATION – TREES IN NEVADA CITY

1. Staff Presentation by Verne Taylor, Director of Public Works, and Cindy Siegfried, City Planner, on various issues regarding trees in Nevada City. Topics include review of the City’s Tree Ordinance, past Planning Commission and Staff tree removal approvals, as well as mitigation and protection measures for trees. The presentation is for informational purposes only.

Staff provided the information presentation on trees within the City. The power point presentation will be placed on the City’s website, and the presentation is available for viewing at the City’s website meeting Archive link. (*Website::nevadacityca.gov*)

Staff present included Cindy Siegfried, Verne Taylor and Bill Falconi. Topics of review included

- Review of the City’s Tree Ordinance
- Historical uses of trees
- Types of trees in the City
- Various reasons why trees are removed
- Tree removal applications approved at Planning Commission and staff levels
- Mitigation and protection measures

Several questions were asked about trees and the following spoke:

1. Harry Stewart – stated the saying “you can see the forest through the trees” should be “you can’t see Nevada City through the trees.” He suggested creating funds to help with removal of trees.
2. David Levy, local forester, feels the city’s ordinance should allow for foresters to provide reports along with arborists. Discussed his experiences as a forester in Nevada County.
3. Dennis McFadden, resident of Spring Street, discussed recent Supreme Court rulings regarding City’s ability to require removal on private properties and provided staff with a copy of the rulings.
4. Antonio Sanchez, resident of Reward Street, discussed problems with tree roots growing into the infrastructure and suggested holding neighborhood workshops.

The Commission thanked staff for the presentation and discussed various ideas of how to educate the public about the City’s tree ordinance.

STAFF APPROVALS AND DETERMINATIONS – (for information only):

Minor Architectural Review

1. 181 Grove Street – Stephen Dodge, Owner –like-for-like roof replacement and repair work due to storm damage (tree falling onto roof)
2. 719 Zion Street – Richard Frey – Owner – like-for-like roof replacement
3. 309 Commercial Street – Joleen Borba, Owner – like-for-like repairs (roofing and gutters)
4. 181 Bost Avenue – Vernon McEwen, Owner – like for like roof repairs

Tree Removal

- 1 110 Orchard Street – Evans Phelps, Owner – Removal of a 20-inch Sequoia tree due to be dead or diseased

CORRESPONDENCE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Planning Commission meeting dates. The February 4 2010 meeting is cancelled due to lack of applications but the February 18 2010 meeting is still scheduled.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. City Manager's Report of January 13 2010 was distributed.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.