

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE  
 JOINT CITY COUNCIL/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEE MEETING  
 MARCH 30, 1988

A Joint Meeting of the City Council, Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Community Design Commission, and Golf Course Committee, conducted in the Community Center, Ole Hanson Room, 100 Seville, was called to order by Mayor Lorch at 7:10 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT                    LIMBERG, MECHAM, RICE, VEALE,  
 MAYOR LORCH

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT                    NONE

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS                    JOSEPH, KWESKIN, NEVILLE,  
 PRESENT                                    HAGGARD, CHAIRMAN HAMILTON

PLANNING COMMISSIONERS                    NONE  
 ABSENT

COMMUNITY DESIGN COMIS-                    NICOL, CHAIRMAN MERTENS  
 SIONERS PRESENT

COMMUNITY DESIGN COMMIS-                    LANDEN, SWAMI, WELTON  
 SIONERS ABSENT

PARKS AND RECREATION                    BLAKE, DOHERTY, FERNANDEZ\*,  
 COMMISSIONERS PRESENT                    MITCHELL, CHAIRMAN WOHLFARTH

\*Arrived at 7:30 p.m.

PARKS AND RECREATION                    NONE  
 COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE                    CRISPINO, LYNCH, SADELL,  
 MEMBERS PRESENT                            SCHRECK, CHAIRMAN WALLACE

GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE                    NONE  
 MEMBERS ABSENT

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Planning Commission and City Council Functions and Responsibilities

Planning Commissioner Hamilton reviewed a memorandum, dated March 30, 1988 entitled "City Council/Planning Commission Interfacing and Public Policy"; opined the role of a Planning Commissioner is to interpret zoning laws and General Plan provisions, utilize common sense, and render judgments for applications without consideration as to how Council would judge the same situation.

Planning Commissioner Joseph reviewed the functions of a Planning Commissioner, as defined in State Law; reviewed the role of the San Clemente Planning Commission; felt Planning Commissioners should attend workshops sponsored by the League of Cities and the APA, preferably soon after appointment; noted some cities require a 4-1 vote by Council to overturn a Planning Commission decision.

Planning Commissioner Neville voiced concern she was never given an orientation at the time she was appointed to the Planning Commission; felt more communication is necessary between the City Council and Planning Commission; felt Council should consult the Planning Commission before calling up an issue for review.

City Manager Hendrickson pointed out the minutes of Commissions and Committees are not, in most cities, submitted to Council for acceptance and that Planning Commission decisions are final unless appealed.

Councilmember Limberg opined it is inappropriate for a member of the City Council to attend a Planning Commission meeting and attempt to influence the decision of that body.

Councilmember Mecham noted that most Planning Commission decisions are not called up by the City Council; suggested that the Mayor meet with the Chairs of the various Commissions/Committee.

Mayor Lorch noted that staff typically relays to the Council issues which were raised by the Planning Commission.

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Community Development Director Holloway stated the Planning Commission determines whether minimum standards have been met, while the Council uses more discretion to try to exact more quality beyond the minimum standards.

Councilmember Rice felt the review process would be expedited if the Planning Commission were made aware of Council philosophies on major points.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Wohlfarth reiterated the need for communication; urged that Council converse with the Planning Commission before calling up an item for review.

Councilmember Veale stated it is important for all City representatives to make an effort to improve communication; noted it is important that the City develop the type of reputation that will attract quality builders; felt conditions should be established at the outset; suggested that a workshop be held to establish goals for projects; stated Planning Commission decisions should be independent of Council.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mitchell felt action minutes don't reflect feelings of particular Commissioners. Councilmember Limberg indicated support for action minutes inasmuch as they reflect the action of Commissions/Committee as a body.

Planning Commissioner Haggard opined the Planning Commission does not have a total grasp of Council's goals; voiced concern that new Planning Commissioners are not provided with training.

Planning Commissioner Kweskin felt projects should be processed based upon current law and that law and policy changes should not be implemented during the processing of an application; suggested quarterly meetings with staff re policies for upcoming items.

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#### Parks and Recreation Commission

Parks and Recreation Chairman Wohlfarth voiced concern with the lack of funding resulting in a small amount of park development in the City; felt San Clemente does not have sufficient personnel, nor budget sufficient funds, to adequately maintain parks and streetscapes; felt the aesthetic value of San Clemente is integral to the morale and well-being of the community; felt it is time to stop making concessions with developers; stated the City possesses sufficient park land, but lacks sufficient funds for park development; requested that the City discontinue trading off fees in lieu of land.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Blake spoke on the need to provide recreational programs for students; provided an update on the Parks Watch Program.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Doherty provided an update on San Geronio Park, the Boys and Girls Club and the softball complex; spoke on the importance of regular communication between the Planning Commission and Recreation Commission; felt Parks and Recreation Commissioners should attend conferences sponsored by the California Association of Parks and Recreation.

#### Golf Course

Chairman Wallace stated the Killian Design Group has been retained to prepare a phased Master Plan for the golf course; reviewed the improvements associated with Phase I and Phase II of the Master Plan, noting play will not be interrupted; stated 75 parking spaces will be added; relayed some people oppose the improvements because they erroneously believe the golf course will be closed for six months; stated he will meet with these individuals.

Committee Member Lynch stated he did not believe the City could support three private golf courses as proposed by the Talega Valley developer; feels another public golf course is needed and would be self-supporting. The Planning Commission agreed to inform the Golf Committee of the next meeting concerning Talega Valley.

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Golf Committee Member Crispino stated the proposed improvements will result in a superior golf course.

#### Community Design Commission

Community Design Chairman Mertens stated the Community Design Commission is currently re-writing a draft Ordinance governing the Community Design Commission's structure; stated the Commission is in the process of compiling a design review checklist; stated the Commission will soon examine sign design guidelines; noted the importance of urban design guidelines and preserving City landmarks.

Community Design Commissioner Nicol stated he has not seen the newest draft Ordinance on the CDC restructure, but felt the original draft contained serious deficiencies; feels CDC review should precede Planning Commission review; stated it is important for the CDC to have landscape and site plan review; referenced Presidio Plaza as an example of a project that could be more aesthetically pleasing had the buildings been situated differently to alleviate the current crowded look.

#### City Entrance Signs

In response to a request by Councilmember Rice, the majority of the people in attendance concurred that the Building Industry Association City entrance signs should read "San Clemente Welcomes You."

#### San Clemente General Hospital

City Manager Hendrickson stated the South County Doctors' Group is planning to purchase the San Clemente General Hospital and the Board of that group will provide a briefing to the Advisory Committee of the Hospital on March 31, 1988 at 6:00 p.m.

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Adjournment

MOTION BY MAYOR LORCH, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MECHAM,  
CARRIED 5-0, to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Maryna Erway  
CITY CLERK of the City of San  
Clemente

Tom Lorch  
MAYOR of the City of San  
Clemente