

**APPROVED MINUTES
WEDNESDAY MAY 12, 2021
SARATOGA PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

Chair Kausar called the virtual Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. via teleconferencing through Zoom. Prior to Roll Call, the Chair and Community Development Director explained that the Planning Commission meeting was conducted pursuant to provisions of the Brown Act and a recent Executive Order issued by the Governor to facilitate teleconferencing to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission at public meetings. Ordinarily the Brown Act sets strict rules for teleconferencing. The Governor's Executive Order has suspended those rules. The Executive Order does require that public agencies continue to notice meetings in advance and provide members of the public an opportunity to observe the meeting and offer public comment. The Planning Commission met all the applicable notice requirements and the public is welcome to participate in this meeting. Information on how the public can observe the meeting and provide public comment was also shared. Additionally, the Chair explained that votes would be taken through roll call.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Anjali Kausar, Vice Chair Herman Zheng, Commissioners Sunil Ahuja, Jojo Choi, Clinton Brownley, Cheriell Jensen and Razi Mohiudinn

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Debbie Pedro, Community Development Director
Christopher Riordan, Senior Planner
Christina Fusco, City Arborist

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action Minutes from the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of April 14, 2021.

Recommended Action:

Approve Minutes of Regular Planning Commission Meeting of April 14, 2021.

MOHIUDDIN/JENSEN MOVED TO **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14, 2021 MEETING**. MOTION PASSED. AYES: AHUJA, BROWNLEY, CHOI, JENSEN, KAUSAR, MOHIUDDIN, ZHENG. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: NONE. ABSTAIN: NONE.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS: NONE

REPORT ON APPEAL RIGHTS

1. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

2. PUBLIC HEARING

2.1 Application APTR21-0001; 18532 Cox Ave (389-13-012); Mahesh and Chhaya Mehta. The property owners are appealing the denial of permit application TRP20-0324 for the removal of one (1) Tristaniopsis laurina tree which grows in the front yard of the property, Staff contact: Christina Fusco (408) 868-1276 or cfusco@saratoga.ca.us.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 21-009 denying the appeal as the required findings cannot be made for the removal of the protected tree.

JENSEN/BROWNLEY MOVED TO **ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-009 DENYING THE APPEAL APPLICATION APTR21-0001.** MOTION PASSED. AYES: AHUJA, BROWNLEY, CHOI, JENSEN, MOHIUDDIN, ZHENG. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: NONE. ABSTAIN: NONE.

2.2 Application ADR21-0004/ARB21-0011; 18580 Cox Avenue (389-13-009); Byron Kemper (Applicant) – The applicant is requesting Design Review approval for a new 3,537 square foot one-story single-family home. Five protected trees are proposed for removal – the City Arborist is recommending that one of the protected trees be retained. The site is zoned R-1-10,000 (Single Family Residential) with a General Plan Designation of M-10 (Medium Density Residential). Staff Contact: Christopher Riordan (408) 868-1235 or criordan@saratoga.ca.us.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 21-007 denying the application for Design Review as the required findings cannot be made for the removal of a protected tree.

AHUJA/MOHIUDINN MOVED TO **APPROVE RESOLUTION 21-007 APPROVING DESIGN REIVEW APPLICATION ADR21-0004 AND REMOVAL OF FIVE PROTECTED TREES.** MOTION PASSED. AYES: AHUJA, BROWNLEY, CHOI, KAUSAR, MOHIUDDIN, ZHENG. NOES: JENSEN. ABSENT: NONE. ABSTAIN: NONE.

3. DIRECTOR ITEMS

3.1 Update to April 20, 2021 House Family Vineyard Study Session

Director Pedro reported that staff has prepared answers to the questions that came up during the study session, an Environmental Impact Report will be prepared for the project, and a dedicated project website was launched earlier today where the public can access frequently asked questions (FAQ), sign up to receive notifications, and find out more about the EIR process and timeline as information becomes available. The website address is www.saratoga.ca.us/HFV.

4. COMMISSION ITEMS: NONE

5. ADJOURNMENT: MOHIUDINN/KAUSAR MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 9:15 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted:

Frances Reed, Administrative Technician

City of Saratoga