

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA PALMA PLANNING COMMISSION

July 15, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Charoen called the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:06 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2008, in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commission Member Rodriguez

INVOCATION: Commission Member Waldman

ROLL CALL: Commission Members

Commission Members present: Chairperson Charoen, Commission Member Herman, Commission Member Rodriguez, and Commission Member Waldman

Commission Members absent: Vice Chairperson Barnes

City Officials present: Dominic Lazzaretto, City Manager
Joel Kuperberg, City Attorney
John Di Mario, Community Development Director
Ed Ethell, Chief of Police
Jan Hobson, Recreation & Community Services Director
Keith Neves, Finance Director
Ismile Noorbaksh, Public Works Director/ City Engineer
Laurie Murray, Administrative Services Manager/ City Clerk
Kimberly Kenney, Minutes Clerk

CONSENT CALENDAR

PL-1. Approval of Planning Commission Minutes

July 1, 2008, Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission.

Commission Member Herman made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Item PL-1.

The motion was seconded by Commission Member Waldman and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Chairperson Charoen, Commission Member Herman,
Commission Member Rodriguez, and Commission
Member Waldman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Vice Chairperson Barnes

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

REGULAR ITEMS

PL-2. Study Session: Regulations for the Establishment and Operation of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries within the City.

Community Development Director Di Mario gave the staff report.

Public Input:

Abe Waheed, 5271 Ivywood Drive, addressed the City Council regarding his support of Medical Marijuana and of allowing a Medical Marijuana Use Facility in the City.

Commission comments and questions:

Discussion ensued regarding the response from the public; the Police Department's role in enforcing federal law, which prohibits the use of medical marijuana; the lack of medical marijuana dispensaries in Orange County; specific legal language needed in the City's Ordinances, Municipal Codes, licenses, and permits that would require licensees to comply with both federal and state law; the number of cities that have created ordinances and municipal codes supporting the prohibition of dispensaries versus the number that have allowed them; the outcome of voting for prohibition and how it could be precedence setting for the city;

the Council's support of having specific language prohibiting these dispensaries in La Palma; and concern over the City taking a position of coming between doctor and patient.

The Planning Commission directed staff to bring back regulations to the Commission that would require business licensees to comply with both federal and state laws.

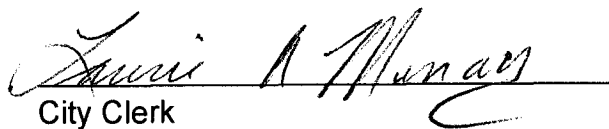
ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Charoen adjourned the meeting of the Planning Commission at 7:36 p.m.



Chairperson

Attest:


City Clerk