MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 3, 2019
El Cerrito City Hall
Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Roll Call: Chair: Carl Groch; Board Members: Wenlin Li, Patrick Riley, and John Thompson. Boardmember Ben Chuaqui had an excused absence.

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
   Motion to elect Ben Chuaqui as Chair and Wenlin Li as Vice Chair: Thompson; second: Riley.
   Vote:
   Ayes: Groch, Li, Riley, Thompson
   Noes: None
   Abstain: None
   Absent: Chuaqui

2. Comments from the Public
   Cordell Hindler of Richmond addressed the Board regarding the proposed Hotel at San Pablo Ave and Cutting Blvd.
   Buddy Akacic addressed the Commission regarding the architecture of new development.

3. Approval of Minutes
   Motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2019 meeting: Li; second: Riley.
   Vote:
   Ayes: Li, Riley, Thompson
   Noes: None
   Abstain: Groch
   Absent: Chuaqui

4. Board Member Communication/Conflict of Interest Disclosure
   Nothing was reported.
5. **Public Hearing: 921 Kearney Street – Tier II Design Review**

   **Application:** PL17-0107  
   **Applicant:** Charles Oewel, 921 Kearney LLC  
   **Location:** 921 Kearney St  
   **APN:** 503-233-032 and 503-233-007  
   **Zoning:** Transit-Oriented Mid-Intensity Mixed Use (TOMIMU)  
   **General Plan:** Transit-Oriented Mid-Intensity Mixed Use (TOMIMU)  
   **Request:** Design Review Board consideration of Tier II Design Review, pursuant to the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, for a new 5-story building containing 69 residential units.

   **CEQA:** This project has been found to be within the scope of the program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15168 and 15182. The project description for the program EIR adequately includes this project for the purposes of CEQA.

   Acting Planning Manager, Sean Moss presented the staff report and answered questions from the Board.

   The applicant, Charles Oewel and the project architect, Jo DeCredico presented the project and answered questions from the Board.

   The public hearing was opened.

   The following speakers addressed the Board:  
   - Cordell Hindler, Richmond  
   - Howdy Goudey, El Cerrito  
   - Gina Calicura, [redacted]  
   - Michael Ely, El Cerrito  
   - Lisa Martinengo, El Cerrito  
   - Tiffany (no last name given), [redacted]  
   - Janice Woo, [redacted]

   The public hearing was closed.

   Motion to deny Tier II Design Review, pursuant to the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, for a new 5-story building containing 69 residential units at 921 Kearney Street: Thompson; second: Riley.

   Vote:  
   - Ayes: Groch, Li, Riley, Thompson  
   - Noes: None  
   - Abstain: None  
   - Absent: Chuaqui

6. **Staff Communications**

   Staff updated the Board regarding an appeal of the Board's approval of the Polaris Apartments project and upcoming agenda items.

7. **Adjournment**

   9:42 p.m.