

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA



MONTECITO PLANNING COMMISSION MARKED AGENDA

Special Retreat of May 29, 2007
9:00 a.m.

The regular hearing of the Santa Barbara County Montecito Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Bob Bierig, at 9:05 a.m., in the Upham Hotel and Country House, 1404 De la Vina Street, Santa Barbara, California.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

MICHAEL PHILLIPS 1st Vice Chair
BOB BIERIG Chair
CLAIRE GOTTSDANKER 2nd Vice Chair
SUE BURROWS
JACK OVERALL
MIKE COONEY Chair, County Planning Commission

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Baker, Director, Planning and Development
Dianne M. Black, Secretary to the Montecito Planning Commission/Director, Development Services
Cintia Mendoza, Recording Secretary to the Montecito Planning Commission
David Villalobos, Board Assistant Specialist
Mary Ann Slutzky, Deputy, County Counsel
David Allen, Deputy, County Counsel
John McInnes, Director, Long Range Planning
Dave Ward, Deputy Director, Development Review, South County

REPORTERS: None in attendance.

NUMBER OF INTERESTED PERSONS: Approximately ±8

I. Training Issues (on agenda)

II. Planning Commission – Staff Relationships

- Timing on staff report availability – release to the public earlier if possible
- Acknowledged the tension between what's good for the County vs. Montecito
- Recommendations to Board of Supervisors – make it clear in findings and conditions; ask for breaks if needed to ensure clear recommendations
- Questions to staff in advance are helpful
- If you receive information from the public that is contrary to that provided by staff – ask questions, continue for more info if needed (for pivotal question/info)

III. Commission Meeting Procedures

- Issue summary – intended frame the issues for MPC consideration

- Commission requested County Counsel try to reduce legal arguments raised in hearings to the two positions – narrow the range of discretion where legally required
- **Comments from the public**
 - Can't make it appear to be a burden
 - Length of testimony at discretion of the Chair with input from other MPC members
 - Enforce time limits when they are set
- **Ex parte Communications**
 - Disclose site visits and hearings and communications so all MPC members have same information upon which to act
 - MPC prefers ex parte disclosures to occur after staff presentation
 - When story poles are erected, MPC and MBAR members should all be notified
 - Site visits – better for members of the MPC to go by themselves, or with staff
 - Televised hearings – camera not always on the speaker or the map; make sure the microphones are on.

IV. Commission Policy Consideration

- **Presentations to the Board of Supervisors**
 - Staff takes care to reflect findings and conditions from MPC decision
 - Staff presents their own professional recommendation when different
- **Presentations from BAR to PC**
 - MPC likes these and finds it very helpful
- **Ad Hoc Groups**
 - Should be available to all residents of Montecito

There being no further business to come before the Commission the hearing was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on June 20, 2007, in the Santa Barbara County Engineering Building, Room 17, 123 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101.

Meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Dianne M. Black
Secretary to the Montecito Planning Commission