

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Lemoore Planning Commission
April 12, 2010**

Chairperson Kendall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Commissioners Meade, Norgaard, Clement, Elgin, Kendall & Planning Director Smyth

Absent: Commissioner Marvin, Ormonde

Public Comments and Inquiries: No Public Comments

Approval of Minutes of Meeting of March 22, 2010

It was moved by Commissioner Clement, seconded by Commissioner Meade, to approve the minutes of March 22, 2010 as submitted.

AYES: Clement, Meade, Elgin, Kendall
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Norgaard
ABSENT: Marvin, Ormonde

Report and Recommendation on the Housing Element.

Smyth stated that John Douglas from Conexus is here tonight to present the 2009-14 Housing Element which includes the State Department of Housing and Community Development's recommended changes to make the document certifiable.

John Douglas stated that California Government Code mandates that each city and county shall include a Housing Element in its General Plan, and that the Housing Element be updated periodically to reflect current conditions and legal requirements. The City's previous Housing Element was adopted in 2003, and State law requires that the element be updated for the 2009-2014 planning period. He stated that the County and the cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford and Lemoore have collaborated to prepare a joint Housing Element document covering all five jurisdictions.

Douglas's went through a Power Point presentation which included the Housing Element Overview and discussed part of the General Plan, 2009-2014 update required by state law, joint effort of Kings County Association of Governments, county & cities, focus housing priorities and housing strategies through 2014, and review by HCD for "Certification". He also reviewed the importance of HCD Certification as it impacts eligibility for many federal and state grants. He stated that their key issues focus on the Regional Housing Needs Allocation for the 2007-2014 period and what programs will help implement lower income housing. Douglas ended with the remaining steps after Planning Commission's decision, which includes a public hearing before the City Council prior to adoption and then sending the adopted document back to State HCD for their final certification.

Chairperson Kendall opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. There were no comments for or against this item. Chairperson Kendall closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

Douglas stated that as a result of State Law there are new changes. He stated that one change extends the shelf life of the Housing Element to 8 years.

In response to Meade's question regarding significant changes, Douglas stated that there were no significant changes and the State was pretty satisfied with the Housing Element draft they began with.

Smyth noted that the City Attorney had a couple of changes to the Resolution which was handed out to the Commissioner's but made it to the posted webpage. She reviewed those changes and asked if there were any questions on the environmental document or the Housing Element. She stated that the environmental review period will be continuing to May 1, 2010.

It was moved by Commissioner Norgaard, seconded by Commissioner Elgin, to approve Resolution #2010-07 recommending that the City Council approve a negative declaration and the 2009-2014 Housing Element.

AYES: Norgaard, Elgin, Meade, Clement, Kendall
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Marvin, Ormonde

Planning Director's Report:

Smyth stated that no activity report is provided but will be provided with the April 26, 2010 packet. She stated that the April 26, 2010 Commission meeting agenda will include Hookah parlors ordinance. She stated that at their last meeting, City Council discussed and reviewed several ordinances pertaining to hookah parlors and directed staff to draft an ordinance based on the Santa Cruz ordinance example regulating hookah parlors. Norgaard asked how much input was received at that meeting. Smyth stated that we provided at least four ordinances from other cities, one ordinance prohibited hookah parlors altogether.

Norgaard stated that Visalia was able to keep hookah parlors out of their city. He asked if we had reviewed the Visalia ordinance. Smyth stated that we will take a look at Visalia's ordinance, but as directed by the Council they would like to regulate hookah parlors and separate them from the regular smoking regulations.

Smyth stated that a two sided insert on zoning update will be mailed with the water bills and the joint meeting for the kickoff of the Zoning Ordinance update is scheduled for Tuesday May 18th at 5:00 p.m.

Commission's Report and Request for Information:

In response to Clement's questions regarding the test well at the west side and the depth of the well, City Manager Britz stated that the well is being tested and he thinks the depth is about 1400 feet. Clement asked when will the signals at 19th Avenue and Bush Street be operational. Britz stated that more work is needed and PG&E needs to set the lights.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.