

Old Town San Diego Community Planning Group

Thurston Coe, Chairperson
2836 Juan Street
San Diego, California, 92110

February 13, 2013

MINUTES v.1

Whaley House Courtroom this meeting to order at 3:35 pm

- **Members Present:** Chuck Ambers; Thurston Coe; Bruce Coons; Ann Dahlkamp; Patricia Fillet; Fred Grand; Marie Pedrin-Gizoni; Bruce Johnson; Diane Lowery; Geoffrey Mogilner; Lorna Rice; Richard Stegner; David Swarens
- **Members Absent:** Fred Schwartz; David Thornton
- **Guests:** Tait Galloway - City of San Diego PSP 533-4550 tgalloway@sandiego.gov
Kaizad Najmi, La Quinta Old Town 858.583.2511; Rasmir Patel, T2 Development 941.620.8036 rasmir@T2dev.com; Stephen Jones, Jones Ballard Architects 619.977.5675 sjones500@gmail.com; Will Harvey 619.297.1636; Rachel Gregg, State Legislature Office for Toni Atkins.

Non-Agenda Public Comments: 1. Marie Pedrin-Gizoni informed the first Old Town Golf Tournament is Monday March 18th to help support the San Diego City School's Old Town Program; 2. Geoffrey Mogilner informs from January 2013s meeting where SANDAG presented the Mid-Coast plans, there were no details for Old Town and that 30 day notice would be provided, however this is not enough time for OTSDCPLG to respond and this will indeed impact businesses on Taylor St., see letter to be on Agenda for March, 2013; 3. Richard Stegner provided response to Chuck Ambers' asking for summary on 4th Grade Program as follows – there was a 5-0 vote to support the 4th Grade Program and this will move forward.

Modifications: Thurston Coe modified agenda to include the Hilton Garden to provide a presentation update and the La Quinta Hotel as an issue of repainting of signage, only and as David Swarens points out this was due to the overall design issues (see comments to action items 6a, below).

Treasurer's report: January balance at \$217.48 + donations of \$58.00 = \$275.48 this is the beginning balance for February, 2013.

Action Items:

4. Approval of January Meeting Minutes,
5. Approval of Treasurer's report,
- 6a. The La Qunita Hotel repainting project

Comments to action items:

4. January Meeting Minutes Approved with a few edits, italicized on V. 2 FINAL Diane Lowery Moved and Geoffrey Mogilner seconded with 10 yes votes, 3 absent, and 2 abstain.
5. Treasurer's Report Approved Richard Stegner Moved and Marie Pedrin-Gizone moved.
- 6a. Kaizad Najmi representing La Quinta returned and presented additional photos for stone feature to front of hotel and is asking for the OTSDPGs approval. Kaizad's emphasis is

on the stone features to be limited to front of building/hotel, only. David Swarens moved to oppose the stone feature and points out that instead, this is new construction and needs to follow the criteria established by the City of San Diego for Old Town. Dianne Lowery disagrees and supports La Quinta's proposal. Kaizad then points out the Old Town Sheriff's Museum as an example of stone features to the façade and that this does not look historic at all. Furthermore, Kaizad mentions that if OTSDPG does not approve that the City Council will move to approve his proposal. Geoffrey Mogilner states that there is a City and Architectural ordinance that supports the period prior to 1872 and that La Quinta's proposal does not comply with the ordinance and extends the owners an invitation to participate and to be part of the Old Town Community. Bruce Coons offers that there are all kinds of things that can be done for example: Stacked stones are a little different in this district and that the materials proposed to be used is unacceptable and asks if this proposed project has gone for review? Richard Stegner asks if the materials can be changed or if the project has progressed too far to allow changes at this point. Kaizad is concerned and takes the points made by some members of the OTSDCPG and states that he will leave the front of the hotel as-is and that this project has not been reviewed by the city. David Swarens points out that the Old Town Community Planning Group was pretty clear for comments. Tait Galloway states that there are things you can do without permitting. Geoffrey Mogilner then offered a personal experience on materials used on his property and how he had to match the materials consistent to Old Town. Bruce Coons suggested a 'rubble-stone' look. Kaizad asked for help and whom to ask? Fred Grand stated the Architectural Guide is online and this should be helpful. Kaizad then asked how best to close this matter and that he strongly opposes the facia and may need to put this onto the driveway, instead. Tait Galloway then asked if this project has been reviewed and reminded the OTSDCPG that the group does not have the authority to approve any project and can only advise or provide opinion. David Swarens expressed concern that this did not go before the Design Review Group and wondered if this indeed should now go before the City Review Process and asked the OTSDCPG to reach consensus to support or not support. Fred Grand reminded the OTSDCPG that there is a motion on the floor and this discussion should move away from a 'negative' vote and asked if Kaizad/La Quinta could come back to this group in order to have a favorable outcome. Kaizad accepted the OTSDCPGs input and deferred to have a decision for February and will return with more information and summed up the review process as – City of San Diego is first for Architectural Design Review Board and then the OTSDCPG will offer (or not) support.

Information Items:

i. Stephen Jones and Rasmir Patel presented an update on the Hilton Garden Inn. A timeline of completion of 18 months and showed the OTSDCPG architectural details and wants this project to be part of the Old Town Community. In the next meeting, the team will hand out packets of the detailed drawings and that plans has not significantly changed since last presented in a first presentation in early, 2012. The team also pointed out that there will be an exhibit that will be inclusive of the Old Town Community with a theme of "garden". Patricia Fillet asked if this is a LEED building and Stephen answered that indeed, this is a sustainable/LEED building with much emphasis on landscaping and well thought out details. A few landscape details mentioned that unfortunately the Mexican Plams are not reusable and that overall, this proposal for amount of rooms has been allowed at 184 with 4 stories and with a 30ft. set back from Taylor St.

ii. A few OTSDCPG members have been reminded to complete the COW online. Tait Galloway has confirmed which members need to complete and have been sent a reminder email.\

Discussion Items:

Tait Galloway pointed out that the amendments to the By Laws needs to happen before the upcoming Elections, April 2013. Tait extends to the OTSDCPG he is available to meet for any clarification on process and who can become members.

Committee Updates:

- a) Code Enforcement Committee: Lorna Price and Diane Lowery
- b) Election Committee: Diane Lowery and Patricia Fillet
- c) By-laws Committee: Geoffrey Mogilner and David Swartz

One new person is needed for the next upcoming election and that has been extended one month to April 10, 2013 and where a person may be elected if they have attended two meetings during the year between March 2012 and March 2013. David Swarens Motioned and Geoffrey Mogilner seconded.

Announcements:

- i. Rachel Gregg mentioned if help is needed for Social Security or IRS taxes, please call Toni Atkins' office.
- ii. Richard Stegner reminded the group: First Old Town Golf Tournament still needs sponsors, the event is on Monday March 18th; Cinco de Mayo will be on two days only this year, Saturday and Sunday; June 2nd is the annual Rock N Roll Marathon and this year, the marathon will come through Old Town and there will be street closures.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Patricia Fillet