TOWN OF MORAGA PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING ACTION MINUTES
Monday, November 1, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Driver at 7:40 p.m. in the Moraga Library Meeting Room, Saint Mary's Road, Moraga California 94556

Planning Commissioners present: Driver, Socolich, Whitley, Wykle
Planning Commissioners absent: Levenfeld, Obsitnik, Richards

ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA
With the exception of the consent calendar, the agenda was adopted as drafted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Planning Director introduced the new Town Manager, Jill Keimach.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR
The consent calendar was not adopted as the September 20, 2010 minutes which were identified for adoption had been previously adopted by the Planning Commission

PUBLIC HEARINGS - none

PUBLIC MEETING
The Planning Director described the purpose of the agenda item which was to introduce the recently created Economic Development Team and conduct a workshop regarding commercial development in the Town of Moraga. The Economic Development Team consisting of Renee Zeimer, Richard Larson and Mary Coe provided self-introductions. Renee Zeimer introduced herself as a 26-year resident of the Town and a former assistant to the City Manager and City Council in the City of Walnut Creek. Richard Larson then introduced himself as a commercial broker and resident of the area since 1979. Finally, Mary Coe introduced herself as a statistics professor at Saint Mary's College who will be conducting a JanTerm class regarding the commercial environment in Moraga. Following the introductions, the Planning Commission provided the group with insight regarding the Town approval process for new commercial development. Commissioners explained their responsibilities with respect to the approval process and the specific findings that need to be made to approve or disapprove an application. Commissioners further commented on community participation in the planning process and noted that Moraga residents are well informed and properly engaged in the planning process. They also expressed an interest in streamlining the process, if possible. Members of the public also weighed in on the issue of economic development. Considerable interest was expressed in the Moraga and Saint Mary's connection and the status of the Rheem Shopping Center.

ROUTINE & OTHER MATTERS - none

COMMUNICATIONS – none

REPORTS
The Planning Commission provided the following reports:

1. Russell Driver, Chair - none
2. Dick Socolich, Vice Chair - none
3. Stacia Levenfeld - absent
4. Jim Obsitnik - absent

5. Tom Richards - absent
6. Bruce Whitley - none
7. Roger Wykle - none

Staff provided the Planning Commission with an update on Town Council actions and future agenda items including the Rancho Laguna II appeal, the Dollar Tree appeal, the Cal Green building code and the Buckingham grading permit.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm