

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION OF  
THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 2, 2019 BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M. AT LOS ALTOS CITY HALL,  
ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

**ESTABLISH QUORUM**

PRESENT: Chair Kirik, Vice-Chair Bishop, Commissioners Harding and Ma  
ABSENT: Commissioner Glew  
STAFF: Senior Planner Golden, Assistant Planner Hassan and Assistant Planner Niday

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. Design Review Commission Minutes**

Approve minutes of the regular meeting of September 4, 2019.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice-Chair Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Harding, the Commission approved the minutes from the September 4, 2019 regular meeting as written.

The motion was approved (4-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Kirik, Bishop, Harding and Ma

NOES: None

ABSENT: Glew

**DISCUSSION**

**2. 19-SC-01 – Daryl Harris – 119 Coronado Avenue**

Design review for a new two-story house. The project includes 3,170 square feet at the first story and 1,280 square feet on the second story. This project was continued from the May 1st, 2019 Design Review Commission meeting. *Project Planner: Hassan*

Vice-Chair Bishop recused himself because the property is within 500 feet of his residence.

Assistant Planner Hassan presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application 19-SC-01 subject to the listed findings and conditions and described the revised design.

Project applicant/architect Steve Collom and the property owner presented the project.

Commissioner Kirik stated he had a conversation with the rear neighbor, and they are satisfied with the screening for the shed.

Public Comment

Neighbor Stratton Jaquette expressed concern about the flat roof which he believes is out of character with the neighborhood; and is concerned about the property line to the right and loss of property to the neighbor.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Ma, the Commission approved design review application 19-SC-01 per the staff report findings and conditions.

The motion was approved (3-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Kirik, Harding and Ma

NOES: None

RECUSED: Bishop

ABSENT: Glew

Vice-Chair Bishop rejoined the meeting for the remainder of the agenda items.

**3. SC19-0001 – Ajit Singh – 1683 Parkhills Avenue**

Design review for a new two-story house with a basement. The project includes 2,087 square feet on the first story and 1,208 square feet on the second story. *Project Planner: Hassan*

Assistant Planner Hassan presented the staff report, recommending approval of design review application SC19-0001 subject to the listed findings and conditions.

Property owners Christine and Wayman Leung stated that their family is increasing in size and wants to have the entire family's bedrooms on one floor.

Public Comment

Neighbor Jonathan Lo stated his family submitted an email; is concerned about privacy; the design should minimize the number of windows facing the property on the second story; the bedrooms and bathrooms on their property will be impacted; and he understands sill plates are recommended to be increased in height, but requests smaller windows or a decrease in number of them.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice-Chair Bishop, seconded by Commissioner Harding, the Commission continued design review application SC19-0001, with the following direction:

- Provide a streetscape plan including the neighboring residences to show the context of the neighborhood;
- Reduce wall plate heights;
- Consider widening the house to reduce vertical mass and scale;
- Integrate the second story windows to better protect privacy of side neighbors;
- Leave the gate open during the Design Review period;
- Maintain style integrity with the neighborhood and/or gesture of style via architectural details;
- Need an arborist report to assess potential impacts to the trees;
- The columns should be proportional to the second story design;
- Perhaps use shingle siding to be more consistent with style; and
- Look at the architectural integrity within the project and as it relates to the neighborhood.

The motion was approved (4-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Kirik, Bishop, Harding and Ma

NOES: None

ABSENT: Glew

**4. SC19-0010 – Eugene Sakai – 126 Mount Hamilton Avenue**

Design review for a new two-story house. The project includes 2,740 square feet on the first story, 1,206 square feet on the second story, and a 2,704 square-foot basement. *Project Planner: Niday*

Assistant Planner Niday presented the staff report, recommending approval of design review application SC19-0010 subject to the listed findings and conditions.

Project architect/applicant Eugene Sakai presented the project and described the design philosophy of the proposed residence and overall design.

Property owner Gloria On said they have a multi-generational family, and need a larger space to accommodate their growing family.

#### Public Comment

Neighbor Liz Czaja stated that the proposed house is not consistent with the neighborhood; the size and scale of the house is out of character with the neighborhood; there is small street frontage and she is concerned about construction and traffic impacts to the neighborhood; and the project adds too much density and mass.

Neighbor Anne Hambly said she received a small outline of the proposal; tried to contact the owners about the diseased tree but was unable to; the neighborhood has provided comments; questions the consistent character neighborhood which is predominantly one-story; and is concerned about lead and asbestos.

Neighbor Alyce Boster said there are mistakes in the neighborhood compatibility worksheet; there are three two-story houses, but are on corner lots that are larger lots; stated the proposed house doesn't have the same character as the existing neighborhood; and the DRC has the responsibility in defining the neighborhood.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Ma, seconded by Commissioner Harding, the Commission continued design review application SC19-0010, with direction to address the following:

- Compatibility with the neighborhood;
- Communicate the proposed design with the neighbors;
- Include the streetscape design with the revised design plans; and
- Consider reducing the mass and bulk of the design, and potentially reduce the second story.

The motion was continued (4-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Kirik, Bishop, Harding and Ma

NOES: None

ABSENT: Glew

#### **5. Topics for Joint Meeting with the City Council**

A discussion on potential topics for the joint meeting with the City Council.

The Chair requested commissioners to think about for next meeting and deferred the discussion to the October 16, 2019 DRC meeting.

#### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

None.

#### **POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Kirik adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM.