

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020 BEGINNING
AT 7:01 P.M. AT LOS ALTOS CITY HALL, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD, LOS
ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

Please Note: Per California Executive Order N-29-20, the Commissions will meet via teleconference only. Members of the Public may call (650) 242-4929 to participate in the conference call (Meeting ID: 149 985 7129 or via the web at <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1499857129> (Password: 019598) Members of the Public may only comment during times allotted for public comments. Public testimony will be taken at the direction of the Commission Chair and members of the public may only comment during times allotted for public comments. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit written testimony prior to the meeting at DesignReviewCommission@losaltosca.gov or Planning@losaltosca.gov. Emails received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT: Chair Ma, Vice-Chair Bishop, Commissioners Blockhus, Kirik, and Harding
STAFF: Planning Services Manager Persicone, Associate Planner Gallegos and Assistant Planner Hassan

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 December 2, 2020.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Kirik, the Commission approved the minutes from the December 2, 2020 regular meeting as written.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus Harding, Kirik, and Ma

NOES: None

DISCUSSION

2. **SC20-0004 - Glen Yonekura - 789 Raymundo Avenue**
Design review for a two-story addition to an existing one-story house. The project includes an addition of 936 square feet on the second story and a 49 square foot addition and remodel on the first story of the main house. *Project Planner: Hassan*

Assistant Planner Hassan presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC20-0004 subject to the listed findings and conditions and answered Commissioner questions.

Glen Yonekura, project applicant/architect, presented the project and answered Commissioner questions.

Rachel D. project manager from Domum, gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation for the project and

answered Commissioner questions.

Public Comment

Neighbor Nancy Ellickson stated that she sent a letter, the majority of roofs in the neighborhood are 4:12 pitch, and the house should be shorter with hip roofs, not gabled.

Carol and Joel Sidel stated concerns with the ADU being four feet from their fence with no landscape screening for privacy. She has gardens that she will lose because of the shade from the ADU roofline.

Chair Ma closed the Public Comment section of the meeting and Commission discussion then proceeded.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Kirik, seconded by Vice-Chair Bishop, the Commission continued design review application SC20-0004 with the following direction to the applicant and requested said modifications be brought back to the Design Review Commission:

- A complete cohesive set of plans that reflects the current design that was presented tonight;
- Include a landscape screening plan along the side and rear property lines so the neighbors are aware of what is being proposed;
- If a new fence is to be built, show it on the landscape plan;
- Provide an arborist report on the Magnolia/Avocado tree and that it will survive construction of the ADU and whether the ADU location will allow for adequate screening along the property line;
- Provide better drawings delineating how the second story construction is going to occur (i.e., is this truly a remodel or a complete rebuild);
- Provide further information on whether the chimney can be extended as shown;
- Further reduction of the balcony in the rear to not be as active given it has a spiral staircase;
- Reduce the second story plate height to reduce bulk and mass; and
- Better integrate the first-floor roofline into the second-floor walls so not to have a bulky top-heavy appearance that the proposed house currently does.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Harding, Kirik and Ma

NOES: None

3. SC20-0013 - Minerva Abad - 1170 Payne Drive

Design review for a new two-story house. The project will include a new house with 2,593 square feet at the first story and 1,365 square feet at the second story. The project includes a 796 square-foot attached accessory dwelling unit, which is not part of the design review application. *Project Planner: Gallegos*

Associate Planner Gallegos presented the staff report recommending approval of design review application SC20-0013 subject to the listed findings and conditions and answered Commissioner questions.

Project applicant/designer, Minerva Abad, presented the project and answered Commissioner questions.

Public Comment

Property owner Payne LLC discussed a neighbor's concerns about construction activity and its impact on the street and the driveway location and explained the solutions he provided to her.

Chair Ma closed the Public Comment section of the meeting and Commission discussion then proceeded.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Blockhus, the Commission approved design review application SC20-0013 per the staff report findings and conditions.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Bishop, Blockhus, Harding, Kirik and Ma

NOES: None

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chair Ma asked for the newly approved ADU regulations and Commissioner Kirik asked for a memo regarding ADUs that will convey to the public that the Design Review Commission cannot weigh in on the design for an ADU.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Planning Services Manager Persicone went over future agenda items on the January 6, January 20, and February 3, 2021 DRC meetings. He announced that Councilwoman Enander is the Design Review Commission's new liaison and would like to talk to the Commission before the Joint Meeting with the new City Council tentatively scheduled for February 2, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ma adjourned the meeting at 9:04 PM.

Guido Persicone, AICP
Planning Services Manager