



MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS REPORT **MAY 25, 2021**

1.0 MINUTES

- Planning Commission
March 2, 2021

2.0 PROCLAMATIONS

- Abel Mejia
Teacher of the Year
May 12, 2021
- Dignity Health Dominican Hospital
Al Smith Friend of Agriculture
May 19, 2021

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE



TELECONFERENCE/REMOTE

March 2, 2021

6:30 PM

In accordance with City policy, all Planning Commission meetings are recorded on audio and video in their entirety and are available for review in the Community Development Department (CDD). These minutes are a brief summary of action taken.

1. ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Anna Kammer, and Commissioners Ed Acosta, Gina Cole, Daniel Dodge, Veronica Dorantes-Pulido, Lucy Rojas and Jenni Veitch-Olson were present.

Staff members present were City Attorney Alan Smith, Community Development Director Suzi Merriam, Principal Planner Justin Meek, Executive Assistant Deborah Muniz, Administrative Assistant II Maria Elena Ortiz and City Interpreter Carlos Landaverry.

Vice-Chair Kammer and City Attorney Smith went over the Planning Commissioner's attendance and absences per the City Charter.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair Kammer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

B. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Cole thanked the City of Watsonville Parks and Community Services Department, Community Bike Collective, Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz, and all who were involved in the pump track project at Ramsay Park.

Commissioner Dodge shared that he will be contacting the Public Works department in regards to providing proper noticing to residents when projects that affect their neighborhood will take place.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

1) Nomination Period

Community Development Director Merriam opened the nomination period for the election of Planning Commission Chairperson.

Commissioner Dodge nominated Commissioner Cole.

Commissioner Cole nominated Commissioner Veitch-Olson.

Commissioner Cole declined the nomination from Commissioner Dodge.

Commissioner Veitch-Olson accepted the nomination from Commissioner Cole.

2) Public Input

None

3) Motion Electing New Chairperson

A roll call vote was cast to elect Commissioner Veitch-Olson as Chairperson. The votes are as follows:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: Acosta, Cole, Dodge, Dorantes-Pulido,
Kammer, Rojas, Veitch-Olson

NOES: COMMISSIONERS: None

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: None

B. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PLANNING COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR PERSON

1) Nomination Period

Community Development Director Merriam opened the nomination period for the election of Planning Commission Vice-Chairperson.

Commissioner Acosta nominated Commissioner Dorantes-Pulido.

Commissioner Dorantes-Pulido accepted the nomination from Commissioner Acosta.

Commissioner Cole nominated Commissioner Kammer.

Commissioner Kammer declined the nomination from Commissioner Cole.

2) Public Input

None

3) Motion Electing New Vice-Chairperson

A roll call vote was cast to elect Commissioner Dorantes-Pulido as Vice-Chairperson. The votes are as follows:

AYES:	COMMISSIONERS:	Acosta, Cole, Dodge, Dorantes-Pulido, Kammer, Rojas, Veitch-Olson
NOES:	COMMISSIONERS:	None
ABSENT:	COMMISSIONERS:	None

5. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

A. PRESENTATION BY RAIMI AND ASSOCIATES ON AN UPDATE OF THE DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN

Presentation was given by Simran Malhotra, Principal, Raimi + Associates.

In answering Commissioner Dodge, Ms. Malhotra provided an update on the acquisition of Highway 152 from Caltrans, and a status on the Fox Theatre and Porter Buildings.

Commissioners Cole and Kammer acknowledged Raimi + Associates, City staff, and the Stakeholder Committee for their work on the Downtown Specific Plan.

In answering Commissioner Rojas, Ms. Malhotra went over the timeline for the Downtown Specific Plan.

Chair Veitch-Olson thanked Ms. Malhotra for her work on the Downtown Specific Plan.

Ms. Malhotra, Principal Planner Meek and Director Merriam answered questions from member of the public Judy, regarding the rail trail and future connection to downtown Watsonville.

6. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Veitch-Olson adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM. The next remote/teleconference Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 6:00 PM.

ADOPTED MINUTES 4.A.

DocuSigned by:

Suzi Merriam

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Suzi Merriam, Secretary
Planning Commission

DocuSigned by:



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Jenni Veitch-Olson, Chair
Planning Commission




P r o c l a m a t i o n

Abel Mejia Teacher of the Year May 12, 2021

- WHEREAS,** Abel Mejia was a bilingual teacher in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District and a lifelong Latino activist in Santa Cruz County; and
- WHEREAS,** Abel was first a student of PVUSD and later a teacher at the secondary level, beginning in 1998 at Rolling Hills Middle School, where he spent three years teaching Social Studies for grades 6th-8th; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2001 Abel moved to Watsonville High School and taught US History, Government and Economics; and
- WHEREAS,** Abel served as president for the Pajaro Valley Chapter of the Association of Mexican American Educators for 12 years; and
- WHEREAS,** Abel always worked hard for the Association, including leading meetings, writing educational articles and letters to the editor for local newspapers, attending and speaking at school board meetings, writing resolutions, organizing student poster contests and fundraising; and
- WHEREAS,** Abel often reached out to state, county, city and school administrators regarding educational issues to voice concerns and offer suggestions; and
- WHEREAS,** Abel was also a member of various advocacy organizations including California Association for Bilingual Education, California Association of Mexican American Educators, Inc., PVFT Committee on Political Action, California Federation of Teachers and AFL-CIO; and
- WHEREAS,** Abel was an advisor for several student-led groups, such as MATA, and was a very active union member in the Pajaro Valley Federation of Teachers, where he functioned as Building Representative and Chair of the Elections Committee; and
- WHEREAS,** Abel was a leader, mentor, friend and champion for social and educational justice who always encouraged others to be involved in “good trouble,” and will be dearly missed by his loved ones, students and coworkers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jimmy Dutra, Mayor of the City of Watsonville, in the State of California, on behalf of the City Council hereby recognize Abel Mejia as being named “Teacher of the Year” by the Pajaro Valley Chapter of the Association of Mexican American Educators, honor his legacy as a community leader and express our deepest sympathies for his passing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Watsonville to be affixed this 12th day of May, Two thousand and twenty one.



Jimmy Dutra, Mayor

WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA





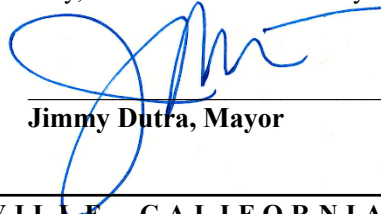
P r o c l a m a t i o n

Dignity Health Dominican Hospital Al Smith Friend of Agriculture May 19, 2021

- WHEREAS,** the Adrian Dominican Sisters arrived in Santa Cruz County, then a fishing community with summertime tourist trade, in 1941; and
- WHEREAS,** five of these sisters, only one being a nurse, moved from Michigan to reopen a failed hospital on West Cliff Drive; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1988, that hospital joined what was then known as Catholic Healthcare West and continued to build on the tenets of community outreach and help for those in need as it transitioned into Dignity Health Dominican Hospital; and
- WHEREAS,** Dignity Health Dominican Hospital's current Mission Vision & Values are compassion, inclusion, integrity, excellence and collaboration; and
- WHEREAS,** Dignity Health Dominican Hospital has evolved over the years to offer the type of cutting-edge technology typically only seen in large metropolitan areas; and
- WHEREAS,** Dignity Health Dominican Hospital has taken a leadership role in providing COVID-19 vaccines to farmworkers in the County; and
- WHEREAS,** Dignity Health Dominican Hospital held the first large scale vaccination clinic in California that focused on agricultural workers; and
- WHEREAS,** Dignity Health Dominican Hospital also collaborated with Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau on a formula that would ensure equity in the distribution of vaccines; and
- WHEREAS,** Dignity Health Dominican Hospital's ongoing efforts with vaccine distribution have made Santa Cruz County a model in prioritizing farmworkers for other counties nationwide; and
- WHEREAS,** Dignity Health Dominican Hospital will celebrate its 80th anniversary later this year, and is committed to continue serving all who walk through their doors, regardless of economic status.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jimmy Dutra, Mayor of the City of Watsonville, in the State of California, on behalf of the City Council hereby congratulate Dignity Health Dominican Hospital on receiving the 2021 "Al Smith Friend of Agriculture" Award, and commend them for their tireless efforts to continue aiding the community in the face of the many unique challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Watsonville to be affixed this 19th day of May, Two thousand and twenty one.


Jimmy Dutra, Mayor

WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA

