



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 5/5/2025
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom.us/join – ID# 846 9472 6242 and
City Council Chambers
751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Call To Order

Chair Jennifer Schindler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Jennifer Schindler (Chair), Andrew Ehrich (Vice Chair), Linh Dan Do, Katie Ferrick, Misha Silin, Ross Silverstein

Absent: Katie Behroozi

Staff: Corinna Sandmeier, Principal Planner; Fahteen Khan, Associate Planner; Chris Turner, Senior Planner

C. Reports and Announcements

Principal Planner Corinna Sandmeier said staff had no reports or announcements.

Commissioner Ross Silverstein reported on an article he had read of data analysis on the City of Santa Barbara and the effect that its formal action to cap its population in the 1980s now had on commuting patterns across the area. He also said census data for Menlo Park indicated 67,000 people commute into the City every day for work and more than 70% of them commute more than 10 miles.

D. Public Comment

Chair Schindler opened the item for public comment and closed it as no persons requested to speak.

E. Consent Calendar

None

F. Public Hearing

- F1. Architectural Control and Use Permit/Kerry Williams/325 Sharon Park Dr.:
Consider and adopt a resolution for an architectural control review to conduct exterior modifications to the storefront of unit D (formerly Inspiration Day Spa) and a use permit for a change of use from the existing personal service use to a fitness studio in an existing multi-tenant shopping center that is substandard with regard to the minimum parking requirement in the C-2

(Neighborhood Shopping) zoning district. Additionally, the proposed fitness studio (Body Fit Training) is considered a private recreational facility, which is a special use and requires use permit approval. Determine this action is categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301's Class 1 exemption for existing facilities. (Staff Report #25-019-PC)

Associate Planner Fahteen Khan said staff had no updates to the written report.

Parag Hardas, business co-owner, spoke on behalf of the project.

Chair Schindler opened the public hearing and closed the public hearing as no persons requested to speak.

Commissioner Ehrich said for the record that the City of Palo Alto zoning code allowed recreational facilities such as the subject project as a permitted use and recommended the same be implemented in the City of Menlo Park.

ACTION: Motion and second (Do/Ehrich) to adopt a resolution approving the item as presented; passes 6-0 with Commissioner Behroozi absent.

G. Regular Business

- G1. Selection of Planning Commission Chair and Vice Chair for May 2025 through April 2026. Not a CEQA project. (Staff Report #25-020-PC)

ACTION: Motion and second (Schindler/Ferrick) to nominate Commissioner Ehrich for Planning Commission Chair for May 2025 through April 2026; passes 6-0 with Commissioner Behroozi absent.

ACTION: Motion and second (Schindler/Do) to nominate Commissioner Silverstein for Planning Commission Vice Chair for May 2025 through April 2026; passes 6-0 with Commissioner Behroozi absent.

G. Informational Items

- G1. Future Planning Commission Meeting Schedule

- Regular Meeting: May 19, 2025

Planner Sandmeier said the May 19th agenda would have a use permit for a fitness use at 700 El Camino Real, a single-family residential project, and the annual reviews of the development agreements for Willow Village and Meta.

- Regular Meeting: June 9, 2025

H. Adjournment

Chair Schindler adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Staff Liaison: Corinna Sandmeier, Principal Planner

Recording Secretary: Brenda Bennett

Approved by the Planning Commission on May 19, 2025.