

**CITY OF DANA POINT  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

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January 23, 2017  
6:00 P.M. – 6:37 P.M.

City Hall Offices  
Council Chamber (#210)  
33282 Golden Lantern  
Dana Point, CA 92629

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Nelson called the Regular Meeting of the Dana Point Planning Commission to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Roy Dohner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Planning Commission Members Present: Chairman Eric Nelson, Vice-Chairman Scott McKhann, Commissioner Roy Dohner, Commissioner Danni Murphy, Commissioner April O'Connor

Staff Present: Jennifer Farrell (Deputy City Attorney), Matt Schneider (Planning Manager), Danny Giometti (Associate Planner), and Shayna Sharke (Senior Administrative Assistant)

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ITEM 1: Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of December 12, 2016.**

**ACTION: Motion made (O'Connor) and seconded (Nelson) to approve the Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of December 12, 2016. Motion carried 3-0-2.**

**AYES:** Murphy, O'Connor, Nelson  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** McKhann, Dohner

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no requests to speak.

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**CITY OF DANA POINT  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

January 23, 2017  
6:00 P.M. – 6:37 P.M.

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

PAGE 2

---

**C. CONSENT CALENDAR**

There are no items on the Consent Calendar.

**D. PUBLIC MEETING**

**TEM 2: Public Art Component for the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Remodel and Expansion Project.**

Applicant: Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Location: 33501 Stonehill Drive (682-211-02)

Recommendation: That the Planning Commission adopt the attached Draft Resolution approving the proposed public art components for the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church remodel and expansion project.

Environmental: Pursuant to Section 15061 (b)(3) of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) the proposed activity will cause no significant effect on the environment and is therefore not subject to CEQA.

Request: Approval of the public art component of the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church remodel and expansion project.

Danny Giometti (Associate Planner) presented and answered questions of the Planning Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Chairman Nelson opened public comments at 6:12 p.m.**

**Don Caskey** (Building Chairman) stated that he was a member of the church as well as the Building Chairman for the project. He added that he is available to answer any questions of the Planning Commission.

**Karin Schnell** (Resident and Chair for the Dana Point Arts and Culture Commission) stated that the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church has exceeded the Arts in Public Places requirement. She added that the applicant has found a well known stained glass artist that will create an experience from the street. She noted that several meetings and programs are offered to the public.

**Chairman Nelson closed public comments at 6:16 p.m.**

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**CITY OF DANA POINT  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

January 23, 2017  
6:00 P.M. – 6:37 P.M.

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

PAGE 3

---

**Commissioner Dohner** stated that he is pleased to be informed of the Arts and Culture Commission's endorsement of the proposed art element.

**Commissioner O'Connor** stated that she was in support of the Gloria Dei remodel when it was originally presented before the Planning Commission and she is not questioning the art itself. She stated that she does question whether the proposed art benefits the public and the City of Dana Point. She cited art around Dana Point including the art in front of the Fire Station, the dolphin sculpture on Del Obispo, and the ocean-themed structure at the Marriott, adding that the art should be easily accessible such as a monument sign by the sidewalk. She stated that the code states the art should be an enhancement to the neighborhood and agrees that it does, but does not agree that it enhances the City as a whole as it is in the interior of the lot. She added that she would like to explore the possibility of an exemption for 501.C charitable organizations from the Art in Public Places requirement.

**Vice-Chairman McKhann** stated that although the art is not in a public place, the code does not specify this as a requirement. He spoke in favor of the art and suggested signage to welcome the public to view the art. He stated that he considers the stained glass and the bell tower as architecture and does not know where to start crediting the proposed art towards the Art in Public Places requirement.

**Commissioner Murphy** stated that while reviewing the code, there are mandatory provisions regarding Art in Public Places, but none of them suggest that Planning Commissioners act as art critics. The art is meant to encourage creativity and culture within the City and the church meets that criteria. She stated that they should take the Art and Culture Commission's comments into consideration when making their decision.

**Chairman Nelson** thanked Chairwoman Schnell for speaking and sharing the view of the Art and Culture Commission. He applauded the applicant for their efforts on their site and the building. He stated that the language of the code is broad and the Planning Commissioners are not art critics. He referenced the art in the Sistine Chapel as an example of public art in a religious place. Chairman Nelson added that the organ is art and played by an artist and the stained glass, is a creative use and also art. He stated that the pedestrian experience within the site is noted in the code and there are elements of art throughout the site that is engaging to everyone.

**Commissioner O'Connor** asked Chairman to clarify how the art at this site would benefit the City as a whole.

**Chairman Nelson** replied stating that the facility is open to the public and fully accessible.

**Vice-Chairman McKhann** asked if there was any additional support for the signage he had suggested.

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**CITY OF DANA POINT  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

January 23, 2017  
6:00 P.M. – 6:37 P.M.

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

PAGE 4

---

**Commissioner Dohner** stated that the art elements proposed would enhance the culture of the City and the quality is above expectations. He added that the church is accessed by many different organizations to hold meetings and various functions.

**Commissioner Murphy** stated that the art will draw more individuals to the site and did not believe that additional signs were necessary.

**ACTION: Motion made (Nelson) and seconded (Dohner) approving the Public Art component for the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Remodel and Expansion Project. Motion carried 4-1-0.**

**AYES:** Murphy, Nelson, Dohner, McKhann  
**NOES:** O'Connor  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business.

**G. STAFF REPORTS**

There were no Staff Reports.

**H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chairman Nelson stated that this week is Restaurant Week in Dana Point. Participating restaurants can be found on the Chamber of Commerce website.

Commissioner Dohner announced that the South Cove Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2017.

Commissioner O'Connor commented on the weather and encouraged everyone to stay dry.

Vice-Chairman McKhann commended the Planning Commissioners on the speed of the previous meeting.

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**CITY OF DANA POINT  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

January 23, 2017  
6:00 P.M. – 6:37 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

PAGE 5

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**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Nelson adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m. and announced that the *next* Regular Meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on Monday, February 13, 2017, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (or as soon thereafter) in the City Council Chamber located at 33282 Golden Lantern, Suite 210, Dana Point, California.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

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Eric A. Nelson, Chairman  
Planning Commission

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