



City of Santa Rosa

City Hall, Council Chamber
100 Santa Rosa Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Design Review Board Regular Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, February 6, 2025

4:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Jones-Carter called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

Present 6 - Chair Melanie Jones-Carter, Vice Chair Adam Sharron, Board Member Michael Cook, Board Member Henry Huang, Board Member Victoria Liptak, and Board Member Drew Weigl

Absent 1 - Board Member Ernest Wuethrich

2. REMOTE PARTICIPATION UNDER AB 2449 (IF NEEDED)

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 Draft Minutes - January 16, 2025

Approve as submitted.

Chair Jones-Carter opened and closed public comment at 4:37 p.m.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Jones-Carter opened public comment at 4:37 p.m.

Duane DeWitt spoke regarding the merger of the Cultural Heritage Board.

Chair Jones-Carter closed public comment at 4:39 p.m.

5. BOARD BUSINESS

5.1 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Chair Jones-Carter read aloud the Statement of Purpose.

5.2 BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Chair Jones-Carter reported that item 9.1 will be continued to a date uncertain.

No other reports.

5.3 OTHER (i.e. VICE CHAIR ELECTION, NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS)

Chair Jones-Carter opened the Vice Chair elections.

A motion was made by Board Member Weigl, seconded by Board Member Liptak, to nominate Board Member Sharron to Vice Chair. Board Member Sharron accepted the nomination.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Chair Jones-Carter, Vice Chair Sharron, Board Member Cook, Board Member Huang, Board Member Liptak and Board Member Weigl

Absent: 1 - Board Member Wuethrich

6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Staff Murray reported.

Chair Jones-Carter opened and closed public comment at 4:50 p.m.

7. STATEMENTS OF ABSTENTION

Vice Chair Sharron abstained from item 9.3 due to his employment with the County of Sonoma, specifically as a Planner with Permit Sonoma.

8. CONSENT ITEM(S)

None.

9. SCHEDULED ITEM(S)

- 9.1** CONCEPT DESIGN REVIEW FOR THE COMSTOCK COMMONS HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER AT 10 SANTA ROSA AVENUE; FILE NO. DR24-055
(THIS ITEM HAS BEEN CONTINUED TO A DATE UNCERTAIN. WHEN IT IS RESCHEDULED, ADDITIONAL NOTICING WILL BE PROVIDED.)

BACKGROUND: The Design Review Board (DRB) will consider the Comstock Commons Hotel and Conference Center, involving a new

nine-story hotel with 151 guest rooms and an approximately 104,000-square-foot event and conference center, as a concept item. This item is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as the DRB will be providing comments and no action will be taken.

Chair Jones-Carter reported this item will be continued to a date uncertain and additional noticing will be provide once it has been rescheduled.

9.2 CONCEPT DESIGN REVIEW FOR THE PINER APARTMENTS, A MULTIFAMILY MIXED-USE PROJECT PROPOSED AT 2000 PINER ROAD; FILE NO. DR24-034

BACKGROUND: The Design Review Board (DRB) will review the Piner Apartments as a concept item. The project proposes to construct a 103-unit, 4-story, mixed-use apartment complex. The project features three 4-story buildings situated above two semi-recessed parking garages. Along Piner Road, one building will include four ground-floor retail spaces with senior housing above, while the other two buildings will offer rental units available to all ages, sharing a common parking garage. The buildings will be arranged around a central plaza at the north end of the site, with amenities such as activity areas, a pool, and a community building located to the south. This item is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as the DRB will be providing comments and no action will be taken.

RECOMMENDATION: Provide comments, suggestions, and recommendations related to the design of the Project.

PRESENTED BY: Kristinae Toomians, Senior Planner
Project Planner Toomians presented.

Applicant representatives made a presentation.

Chair Jones-Carter opened public comment at 5:23 p.m.

Dave spoke in opposition to the project.

Ryan spoke in opposition to the project.

Anton spoke in opposition to the project.

Chris spoke in opposition to the project.

Dan spoke in opposition to the project.

Michael spoke in opposition to the project.

Duane DeWitt spoke in support of the project.

Chair Jones-Carter closed the public comment at 5:43 p.m.

Staff and the Applicant representatives responded to Board Member inquiries.

Board Members provided comments and feedback.

- *9.3** PUBLIC HEARING - APPEAL OF THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S DECISION TO APPROVE THE TIERRA DE ROSAS PUBLIC PLAZA LOCATED AT 883 & 665 SEBASTOPOL ROAD; FILE NO. DR22-041
- BACKGROUND: An appeal of the Zoning Administrator's approval of Minor Design Review for a 1.01 acre privately maintained park that will serve as an outdoor public gathering place for the community and will be part of the master development for Tierra de Rosas (formerly known as Roseland Village). The item is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- RECOMMENDATION: Deny appeal and grant Minor Design Review approval.

Vice Chair Sharron left Council Chambers at 6:51 p.m.

Ex Parte Disclosures: None.

Project Planner Toomians presented.

Staff responded to Board Member inquiries.

The meeting went into Recess at 7:12 p.m. and Reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

Chair Jones-Carter opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.

Appellants made a presentation.

Chair Jones-Carter opened public comment at 7:31 p.m.

Anna spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site. She also requested Spanish translation.

Raul spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site.

Alma spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site.

Member of the public spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site.

Pedro spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site.

Rosa spoke in support of the project but opposes the food truck portion of the project.

Duane DeWitt spoke in support of the project as a green space that is open to the community but opposes the food truck portion of the project.

Member of the public spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site.

Juana spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site.

Henry spoke in opposition of the Mitote Food Park, not the proposed Park at the subject site.

Chair Jones-Carter closed public comment at 7:59 p.m.

Chair Jones-Carter closed the Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m.

Staff responded to Board Member inquiries.

Chair Jones-Carter re-opened the Public Hearing at 8:10 p.m. to allow for rebuttals.

Applicant representatives provided a rebuttal and concluding comments.

Applicant representatives responded to Board Member inquiries.

Chair Jones-Carter closed the Public Hearing at 8:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Board Member Weigl, seconded by Chair Jones-Carter, to waive reading of the text and adopt as amended:

RESOLUTION NUMBER DRB-2025-001; ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE DESIGN REVIEW BOARD OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA DENYING AN APPEAL AND UPHOLDING ZONING ADMINISTRATOR DECISION TO GRANT DESIGN REVIEW APPROVAL FOR THE TIERRA DE ROSAS PUBLIC PLAZA, A 1.01-ACRE OUTDOOR, PRIVATELY MAINTAINED PARK THAT IS PART OF THE MASTER DEVELOPMENT FOR TIERRA DE ROSAS (FORMERLY KNOWN AS ROSELAND VILLAGE), LOCATED AT 883 AND 665 SEBASTOPOL ROAD, FILE NO. DR22-041.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Chair Jones-Carter, Board Member Huang, Board Member Liptak and Board Member Weigl

No: 1 - Board Member Cook

Absent: 1 - Board Member Wuethrich

Abstain: 1 - Vice Chair Sharron

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jones-Carter adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Approved on:

Krystal Camp, Recording Secretary