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CITY OF CORAL GABLES
LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY (LPA)
PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MEETING
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT
CORAL GABLES CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
405 BILTMORE WAY, CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2009, 6:03 P.M.

Board Members Present:

Tom Korge, Chairman
Eibi Aizenstat, Vice-Chairman
Robert Behar
Jack Coe
Jeffrey Flanagan
Pat Keon
Javier Salman

City Staff:

Elizabeth M. Hernandez, City Attorney
Eric Riel, Jr., Planning Director
Walter Carlson, Assistant Planning Director
Jill Menendez-Duran, Administrative Assistant
Martha Salazar-Blanco, Zoning Official
Carlos Mindreau, City Architect
Scott Bolyard, Planner
Scarlet Tenen, Corradino Group
Jim Kay, Engineering Division Supervisor

Also Participating:

Felipe Calderon
Mericcia Longo

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THEREUPON:

(The following proceedings were had:)

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. The meeting is called to order.

Can we take the roll, please?

MS. MENENDEZ: Eibi Aizenstat?

MR. AIZENSTAT: Here.

MS. MENENDEZ: Robert Behar?

MR. BEHAR: Here.

MS. MENENDEZ: Jack Coe?

MR. COE: Here.

MS. MENENDEZ: Jeff Flanagan?

MR. FLANAGAN: Here.

MS. MENENDEZ: Javier Salman?

MR. SALMAN: Here.

MS. MENENDEZ: Pat Keon?

Tom Korge?

THE CHAIRMAN: Here.

The first item on our agenda is approval of the minutes of the meeting of September 16th, 2009.

MR. COE: So moved.

MR. FLANAGAN: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: You seconded it. Any discussion or correction? Hearing none,

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please call the roll on that motion.

MS. MENENDEZ: Robert Behar?

MR. BEHAR: Yes.

MS. MENENDEZ: Jack Coe?

MR. COE: Yes.

MS. MENENDEZ: Jeff Flanagan?

MR. FLANAGAN: Yes.

MS. MENENDEZ: Javier Salman?

MR. SALMAN: Yes.

MS. MENENDEZ: Tom Korge?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

The first -- the next item is the Zoning Code Text Amendment --

MR. AIZENSTAT: Did you forget -- excuse me, did you forget to call somebody? I didn't hear my name called for that.

MS. MENENDEZ: I'm sorry. Eibi Aizenstat?

MR. AIZENSTAT: That's okay. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

MR. RIEL: We're moving too fast here.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. There's a consensus to move along.

Zoning Code Text Amendment - Article 5, Division 20, "Telecommunications."

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MR. RIEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. What this is, this is a -- an amendment -- further amendment to the Zoning Code.

If you'll recall, back in July of this year, we brought miscellaneous code amendments to the amateur radio antenna provisions and they were adopted by the Commission in August, and after that time, we got some additional input from the American Radio Relay League, in terms of some additional changes they suggested, to be more in compliance with, I guess, standards -- telecommunications standards.

Basically, the provisions, as you see before you, there's no changes in terms of the provisions governing height, regulate -- required reviews, the measurement of the facilities, permitted locations, dismantling, insulation, they're basically the same provisions.

Basically, what it is is a change in terminology, as to how these items are described, in terms of -- rather than calling them amateur radio antennas, calling them antenna support structures,

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1 personal radio services, and, probably, I
2 would say, the major portion is the fact
3 that we've actually defined those terms.

4 The gentleman is here, who helped us.
5 If you look at Attachment A,
6 Mr. Calderon --

7 MR. CALDERON: Yes.

8 MR. RIEL: -- helped us greatly, and
9 worked, actually, in association with the
10 City Attorney's Office and outside legal
11 counsel in re-writing these regulations.

12 Mr. Calderon's more than welcomed to
13 come up and make some comments. Staff
14 recommends approval and this will then
15 proceed to the Commission.

16 MR. BEHAR: Eric, a question. The
17 height -- all the requirements stay the
18 same?

19 MR. RIEL: Yes.

20 MR. BEHAR: Still go through all --
21 the Board of Architects for approval and
22 everything?

23 MR. RIEL: Yes.

24 MR. BEHAR: Motion to approve.

25 MR. COE: Second.

6

1 MR. FLANAGAN: Second.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: A motion and a second.

3 Do we have any input from the public? If
4 there's no discussion, we'll just bring it
5 to a vote.

6 If you'd like to come up --

7 MR. RIEL: Just come up and introduce
8 yourself.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: But make them -- please
10 make them very brief.

11 MR. CALDERON: I'll make it very brief.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: So we can approve this,
13 presumably.

14 MR. CALDERON: Very briefly. Just to
15 explain to you who the ARL are. They are
16 the organization that covers all amateur
17 radio operators in the US. It's
18 approximately -- out of the 700,000, they
19 cover 260,000 and, here, in Coral Gables,
20 members of the ARL, we're 168. That's all.

21 And, basically, it's that -- the
22 approval, we're in favor of it, because
23 it's for the safety of the City and the
24 participants.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

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1 MR. COE: Move the question, Mr. Chairman.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Motion and a second to
3 approve the Zoning Code Text Amendment to
4 Article 5, Division 20. No -- hearing no
5 discussion, let's call the vote, please.

6 MS. MENENDEZ: Jack Coe?

7 MR. COE: Yes.

8 MS. MENENDEZ: Jeff Flanagan?

9 MR. FLANAGAN: Yes.

10 MS. MENENDEZ: Javier Salman?

11 MR. SALMAN: Yes.

12 MS. MENENDEZ: Eibi Aizenstat?

13 MR. AIZENSTAT: Yes.

14 MS. MENENDEZ: Robert Behar?

15 MR. BEHAR: Yes.

16 MS. MENENDEZ: Tom Korge?

17 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

18 Next item is the Zoning Code Text
19 Amendment - Article 5, Division 16,
20 entitled "Roofs."

21 MR. RIEL: Again, this is an amendment
22 to the Zoning Code. It doesn't have to do
23 with metal roofs, I can tell you that.

24 Let me go ahead and turn it over to
25 Carlos Mindreau, the City Architect. This

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1 is -- the next two items on the agenda were
2 items that were requested by the Building
3 and Zoning Department.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: For the record, just
5 note that Pat Keon has arrived.

6 MR. MINDREAU: This text amendment --
7 this text amendment contains the addition
8 of a paragraph to Article -- Section 51602,
9 and subsequently, in addition, Paragraphs A
10 and B of Section 51603.

11 And, in essence, without reading it
12 for you, because you're capable of doing
13 that, but Paragraph G would expand Section
14 51602, to include buildings in the area --
15 particularly in the areas that are in the
16 flood zone district, in which the heights
17 of buildings is 39 feet, it would allow
18 them -- the Code currently allows for a
19 rooftop terrace over the first floor
20 portion of a two-story building.

21 This simply would allow a rooftop
22 terrace over the two-story portion of
23 two-story buildings, in the areas of the
24 flood zone, which are typically ocean --
25 have the capability to view the ocean from