

**KINGS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

District 1 Commissioner – Riley Jones

District 2 Commissioner – Bob Bajwa

District 3 Commissioner – R.G. Trapnell\*

District 4 Commissioner – Jim Gregory\*\*

District 5 Commissioner - Louise Silacci

\*Chairman

\*\*Vice-Chairman

**August 4, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Kings County Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Gregory, on August 4, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, Administration Building, Kings County Government Center, Hanford, California. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Riley Jones, R.G. Trapnell, Bob Bajwa, Jim Gregory

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Steven Dias

**STAFF PRESENT:** Greg Gatzka – Director, Erik Kaeding – County Counsel, Chuck Kinney – Deputy Director – Planning, Terri Yarbrough – Executive Secretary, Sandy Roper – Principle Planner, Dan Kassik - Planner

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Sue Weisenhaus, Crystal Hernandez, Linda Borsotti, Robert Cisneros, Albert VanDerGraaf, Steven Bickner, Leland Silveira, Harm VanDerGraaf

**SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA:** Mr. Gatzka summarized the agenda for the Commission.

**UNSCHEDULED  
APPEARANCES:**

No one spoke during this portion of the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made and seconded (Trapnell/Jones) to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2014 meeting. Motion carried unanimously with Dias absent.

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Conditional Use Permit No. 14-02 (Champions Recovery)**

Mr. Kassik provided an overview of a proposal to establish a 49 bed residential substance abuse treatment facility within an existing building located at 11517 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lemoore, Assessor's Parcel Number 017-310-047. Mr. Kassik reported that the project was located in an AL-10 zone district and is consistent with the 2035 General Plan and Kings County Zoning Ordinance. He also reported that the facility would be staffed 24 hours a day and would include one Kings County probation officer. Commissioner Jones asked what happened to the home for the elderly that was preciously operating at this location. Mr. Kassik stated that it had closed and he didn't know how long it had been closed. Commissioner Gregory reported that he had conversation with Supervisor Barba earlier in the day regarding this project.

Chairman Gregory opened the public hearing and asked if there was anyone wishing to speak in favor of the project. Sue Weisenhaus, Crystal Hernandez and Linda Borsotti spoke in favor of the project. Sue Weisenhaus, the applicant, and Crystal Hernandez, representing Champions Recovery, provided an overview of the project. Commissioner's Gregory and Trapnell asked for clarification regarding how many of the clients will be directed to this facility through the courts. Sue stated approximately 90% of the clients are directed through the courts. She also stated they don't accept violent criminals, sex offenders or arsonist and the minimum client age is 18. Chairman Gregory asked if there

was anyone wishing to speak against the project. Robert Cisneros, Albert VanDerGraaf, Steven Bickner, Leland Silveira and Harm VanDerGraaf spoke against the project. Concerns were expressed regarding the safety of the neighborhood, night supervision, locking of the facility, and residents walking up and down the streets unsupervised. Chairman Gregory asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak against the project. Seeing none, he asked if the applicant had a rebuttal. Sue Weisenhaus stated they would be installing 35 cameras inside and out of the facility which would record 24 hours per day and could be viewed from anywhere via cell phone. She also stated that uniformed staff would be on site and the Sherriff was considering placing a substation at the property. Sue Wiesenhaus and Crystal Hernandez explained that clients have daily schedules and must earn time out of the facility and are not free to come and go at any time they want. If residents break the rules there are consequences and rewards for staying on task. Chairman Trapnell then closed the Public Hearing.

Commissioner Trapnell made a motion that transportation services for clients be provided and that residents not be allowed to walk down the streets be added as conditions of CUP 14-02. After discussion, Commissioner Trapnell withdrew his motion.

A motion was made and seconded (Trapnell/Jones) to continue the agenda item to the next regularly scheduled meeting. Motion carried with three in favor, Gregory opposing and Dias absent.

A motion was made and seconded (Jones/Trapnell) to reopen the public hearing and continue the public hearing to the next regularly scheduled meeting. Motion carried unanimously with Dias absent.

- 2. Kings County Development Code Update** – Mr. Gatzka reported that staff has been updating the zoning ordinance to make it easier to reference and to be consistent with the 2035 General Plan. He stated it is nearing completion and will be presented to the Planning Commission for action.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- 1. FUTURE MEETINGS:** The next regular meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2014.
- 2. CORRESPONDENCE:** None
- 3. STAFF COMMENTS:** Greg Gatzka provided an updated list of Planning Commissioners and announced that Steven Dias had been appointed to represent District 5.
- 4. COMMISSION COMMENTS:** Commissioner Jones asked if someone from the Kings County Probation Department and Sherriff's Department could attend the next meeting to address questions regarding CUP 14-02.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KINGS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**



**Gregory R. Gatzka, Commission Secretary**