

BOARD OF APPEALS

CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MEETING MINUTES – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

REGULAR MEETING (IN-PERSON AND REMOTE ACCESS VIA ZOOM)

5:00 P.M., CITY HALL, ROOM 416, ONE DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE

PRESENT: President Jose Lopez, Vice President John Trasviña, Commissioner Rick Swig, and Commissioner J.R. Eppler.

Jen Huber, Deputy City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney (CAT); Tina Tam, Deputy Zoning Administrator, Planning Department (PD); Kevin Birmingham, Acting Chief Building Inspector, Department of Building Inspection (DBI); Julie Rosenberg, Executive Director; Alec Longaway, Legal Assistant.

(1) PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, members of the public may address the Board on items of interest to the public that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board except agenda items. With respect to agenda items, your opportunity to address the Board will be afforded when the item is reached in the meeting with one exception. When the agenda item has already been reviewed in a public hearing at which members of the public were allowed to testify and the Board has closed the public hearing, your opportunity to address the Board must be exercised during the Public Comment portion of the calendar. Each member of the public may address the Board for up to three minutes. At the discretion of the Board President, public comment and remote public participation may be limited to two minutes per person. If it is demonstrated that public comment and remote public participation will cumulatively exceed 15 minutes, the President may continue Public Comment and/or remote public participation to another time during the meeting.

SPEAKERS:

Corey Teague, representing the Planning Department, thanked his colleague, Tina Tam, for all her work at the Board of Appeals. He noted that she took her job as liaison to the Board very seriously and always acted in a professional manner.

John Nulty spoke about Appeal Number 20-081 which was heard by the Board on January 6, 2021. He stated that part of the motion was to do a replacement plan of trees at UC Hastings at 198 McAllister. He noted that it had been three years and seven months since the hearing and no replacement trees had been planted as required by the motion.

Commissioner Swig thanked John Nulty for bringing this issue to the attention of the Board and asked the Executive Director to make a formal request to DPW for an update.

(2) COMMISSIONER COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

SPEAKERS: President Lopez echoed the comments made by Corey Teague during Public Comment. He stated he was saddened to learn that it was Ms. Tam's last night representing the Planning Department before the Board. He stated that her service has been exemplary and her preparation for the meetings impressive. He further stated that he always valued her cogent summaries and presentations of the material, as well as her ability to quickly respond to the Board's tough questions in a professional manner. President Lopez thanked Ms. Tam for her service.

Commissioner Swig thanked Ms. Tam for her work over the last several years. He stated that the Board relied on her for detailed information about projects, relevant legislation, guidelines and the Planning Code. He noted that she put herself on the firing line by fielding questions from the commissioners and the public, and that she always handled herself elegantly and intelligently.

Vice President Trasviña joined President Lopez and Commissioner Swig in expressing his appreciation for all of Ms. Tam's hard work and dedication to the City. He noted that the Board of Appeals dealt with disputes, problems, and members of the public who sometimes believed the City got it wrong. He stated that it was often forgotten when the departments and City employees get it right. He stated that Ms. Tam was a consummate public servant that he always respected. He appreciated her hard work, ethics and exemplary service to the City. Vice President Trasviña wished Ms. Tam well in her next chapter.

Commissioner Eppler stated that his fellow commissioners expressed themselves very well about Ms. Tam. He further stated that he appreciated the clarity of Ms. Tam's presentations and the levity she brought to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

(3) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Discussion and possible adoption of the September 11, 2024 minutes.

ACTION: Upon motion by President Lopez, the Board voted 4-0 to adopt the September 11, 2024 minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

(4) APPEAL NO. 24-046

PETER HOLOYDA, Appellant(s) vs. DEPT. OF BUILDING INSPECTION, Respondent PLANNING DEPT. APPROVAL	763 Lakeview Avenue. Appealing the ISSUANCE on August 6, 2024, to Carlos Villicana, of an Alteration Permit (revision to Permit Application # 202206035607; adding a standing deck to attached Accessory Dwelling Unit with spiral stair leading up to the deck. (single family + ADU)). PERMIT NO. 2023/08/25/5349. FOR HEARING TODAY.
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ACTION: Upon motion by Commissioner Swig, the Board voted 4-0 to deny the appeal and uphold the permit on the basis it was properly issued.

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SPEAKERS: Peter Holoyda, appellant; Claudia Villicana, permit holder; Daniel Vargas, agent for permit holder; Tina Tam, PD; Kevin Birmingham, DBI.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

(5) SPECIAL ITEM:

Discussion and possible adoption of the Departmental Annual Report for Fiscal year 2023-2024.

ACTION: Upon motion by Commissioner Swig, the Board voted 4-0 to adopt the Board's Annual Report for FY24 as amended by Vice President Trasviña and Deputy City Attorney Jen Huber.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, President Lopez adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

The supporting documents for this meeting can be found at the following link:

<https://www.sf.gov/meeting/september-25-2024/board-appeals-hearing-september-25-2024>

A video of this meeting, can be found at the following link:

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/player/clip/47015?view_id=6&redirect=true