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CITY OF BIG BEAR LAKE  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 2013

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**CALL TO ORDER** 1:16 p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE** Commissioner Pacelli.

**ROLL CALL** Commissioners Breunig, Pacelli, Senft, Vice-Chairman Bush present. Chairman Smith excused. Vice-Chairman Bush became Acting Chairman.

**STAFF PRESENT** James J. Miller, Community Development Director; Janice Etter, City Planner; Ruth Lorenz, Associate Planner; Siri Eggebraten, Associate Planner; and Becky Romine, Commission Secretary.

**AGENDA APPROVAL** Director Miller requested that Item 2.1 be removed from the agenda due to staff's receipt of several letters of opposition late yesterday. Commissioner Pacelli moved to remove Item 2.1 from the agenda to be heard at a later date. Commissioner Breunig seconded the motion. The motion carried with a voice vote.

**PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Director Miller advised the Commission that there will not be a Commission meeting held on December 18, 2013. He also reminded them about the Holiday Party on December 13, 2013.

**PUBLIC FORUM** Linda Carpenter from Alpenhorn Bed and Breakfast presented a letter to the Commission addressed to Andrew Mellon, Associate Planner, in response to a letter she received in October.

**1. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1.1 Approval of the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting of November 20, 2013. Approved with a correction to a typo on page 2. Commissioner Pacelli moved to approve the minutes with the correction. Commissioner Breunig seconded the motion. The motion carried with a voice vote.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

- 2.1 Removed

**3. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 3.1 Big Bear Starlight Festival and Memorial 5k Fun Run and Half Marathon

Rick Bates, Director of the Event Resource Office, gave an overview of the events proposed for the 2014 Memorial Day weekend. Then Scott Roberts, founder of the Astronomy Outreach

Network, presented detailed information about the proposed event. Joe Napalitano joined Mr. Roberts at the dais to provide additional information.

The Commission asked questions of the speakers, specifically about outreach to local area schools, closing the Village, marketing, and the number of patrons they would anticipate. The speakers addressed the questions.

Director Miller reminded the Commission that the Planning Department had not received a formal application and that the applicant and staff were asking that the Commission consider whether or not the Commission would be able to make the special finding necessary to approve the event contingent upon a formal application and additional information from the applicant.

The following individuals spoke in support of the event concept: Liz Harris, Matt Scriven, Pam Scannell, Rebecca Hrabia and Linda Ricchiuti.

Tom Sitton spoke in favor of the Big Bear StarLight Festival concept, but stated that he was opposed to closing streets in the Village for the event.

The discussion concluded when Acting Chairman Bush stated that the applicant should proceed with a formal application.

### 3.2 2014 Major Special Event Overview and Authorization for Approval

Director Miller gave a brief statement indicating that the Staff Report was prepared for Commission to provide them with an overview of the anticipated Major Special Event schedule for 2014.

4. **PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT** Director Miller pointed to an article on bicycling bringing prosperity to cities that was handed out to them.

### 5. **SUMMARY COMMENTS**

Acting Chairman Bush commented that she enjoyed the presentation today. Commissioner Senft indicated that he was looking forward to the Observatory being open to the public. Commissioner Pacelli said he felt that this proposal was what he had envisioned when the Special Event Ordinance was discussed.

6. **ADJOURNMENT** At the hour of 2:26 p.m., Acting Chairman Bush adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED AT THE MEETING OF January 15, 2014.



Becky Romine, Commission Secretary