



City of Sierra Madre


Office of the City Clerk

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**THE BROWN ACT PROVIDES THE PUBLIC WITH
AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS
AT ANY PUBLIC MEETING.**

**THE FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS RECEIVED
FOR THIS MEETING**

From: 
To: [PlanningCommission](#)
Subject: An item not on the agenda, Alverno
Date: Thursday, January 20, 2022 3:06:59 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Happy New Year Vincent,
We hope this is an acceptable format to provide a copy for each members consideration at the meeting tonight.
Thank you
Keith, & Kristin

January 20, 2022
Re: Matter Not on the agenda regarding Alverno School

Planning Commission Members City of Sierra Madre
Mr. Bob Spears
Mr. Tom Denison
Mr. John C. Hutt
Mr. William Pevsner
Ms. Peggy Dallas

Dear Planning Commission Members,

We would like to address a matter not on the agenda tonight but cannot attend for health reasons. We are preparing for a major surgery and advised by our medical team to not be indoors with groups.

The matter we are asking for you to consider is in regards to Alverno School's request for permanent expansion and an example of Alverno's representatives refuse to work with it's neighbors.

- Some neighbors received a snail mail invite from Alverno to attend a meeting to discuss their school expansion. The invite arrived less than a week for neighbors to consider attending on 1/24/22.
- The invite ***requires all attendees upon arrival to show proof of vaccine AND a negative Covid test less than 72 hours*** prior to the meeting.
- On Wednesday the 19th only the few neighbors on Alverno's email blast were told the invite had the wrong information regarding attending. When asked if the other neighbors would be mailed a corrected invite, Alverno stated they had no plans to send a corrected invite.
- Neighbors on the email blast implored Alverno to move the meeting out-of-doors and move it off just a few weeks for several reasons:

Some neighbors have health concerns or a disability, or care for those who do. They have deep concerns regarding attending any indoor meeting during the Omicron surge.

The invite should be corrected and resent with a date that allows for a reasonable amount of time for all neighbors who wish to make plans to attend.

The neighbors invited the Chief of Police, even he cannot attend this date with this short of notice but said he would like to.

- We feel these are reasonable options by the neighbors to make the meeting more inclusive. So why is Alverno being unreasonable, ignoring or deflecting the requests with non-answers? Is it so Alverno can have the appearance of reaching out to the neighbors in the eyes of the Planning Commission

and the City Council even though only a handful might be able to attend?

- Alverno's response to being asked to hold the meeting outdoors and making the meeting ADA accessible is to tell the person in a wheelchair they could stay outside. That is not making the meeting accessible when the temps at night are in the mid 50s let alone makes attendance too restrictive to participate in the meeting going on indoors.
- Also, this is not a neighborhood meeting as the topic is limited by Alverno's stating this meeting is about the Master Expansion. Alverno continues to be in violation of holding the agreed upon quarterly neighborhood meetings to discuss grievances and other matters. Meetings scheduled in advance by both parties are to be at a mutually agreeable time and place per the provisions of the TUP and with the agreement of the City Council when granting their 2011 CUP.

We feel the members of the Planning Commission and City Council should be aware that Alverno is consistently unreasonable in their consideration and disdain for working with their neighbors. We have the correspondence. Alverno is out of compliance when it comes to the ADA. It's about their bottom dollar. Alverno representatives and their board only want to make themselves appear to be doing the right thing when the commission and council is looking at them and deciding on their applications. In reality Alverno and their board behave quite the opposite once they get their CUP, and TUPs.

We appreciate the opportunity to demonstrate one example of how difficult it is for neighbors trying to work with Alverno and their board.

Sincerely yours,

Keith and Kristin Stephens

[REDACTED]

Respectfully yours,
Mr. & Mrs. K Stephens

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Comment; PlanningCommission](#)
Subject: Item not included on tonight's meeting agenda, January 20, 2022, regarding Alverno School
Date: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:33:54 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear Planning Commission Members,

I would like to address a matter that is not included on tonight's agenda as I am unable to attend the meeting.

My name is Leesa Puleo and I live at [REDACTED], Sierra Madre, across the street from the Alverno exit gate. My ex husband and I have spoken at the Commission Meeting on two occasions regarding the Alverno school and their expansion efforts, and have provided our contact information at both meetings.

This afternoon it came to my attention that Alverno has scheduled a neighbor meeting for January 24, 2022, to discuss the master plan. I was also informed that Alverno staff indicated that they sent written invitations to ALL neighbors, and everyone in attendance at the November 18, 2021 Commission meeting. A follow up email of a correction to the mailed invitation was also sent to all contacts. Although Alverno has my contact information, I did not receive an invitation to said meeting, either by US Mail or email, or an email regarding a correction to the original invitation.

I believe I was purposefully omitted from their invitation list as my ex husband and I have been very outspoken about Alverno's behavior and activities. This is unacceptable behavior and provides evidence that Alverno has no intention of including all neighbors in their planning sessions and continues to have challenges with transparency.

Regards,
Leesa Puleo
[REDACTED]