

Consolidation of Design Review Board and Planning Commission in the works

By Vera Kochan

During the Feb. 27 Moraga Town Council meeting, Planning Director Derek Farmer put forth a consideration by council members to consolidate the Design Review Board

with the Planning Commission.

Farmer cited the benefits to the town in that the move would reduce staff time and costs, as well as enable Moraga to provide applicants with a streamlined planning

review process.

The Design Review Board's main functions are to review architecture and landscaping, while the Planning Commission handles land use elements.

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Parenting in the age of technology

By Vera Kochan

Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School hosted a lecture entitled Media in the Middle on Feb. 21 aimed at helping parents of middle school kids unravel the mysteries behind popular apps, social networking sites and more.

Guest speaker Erica Pelavin, Ph.D., is a psychologist and licensed clinical social worker with over 20 years of experience specializing in bullying prevention, relational aggression, cybersafety and con-

flict resolution. She is also co-founder of My Digital TAT2, a nonprofit organization that helps schools and communities address issues and the use of technology in constructive ways.

Pelavin, as a mom in the digital age, doesn't just talk the talk, she walks the walk with her own kids, telling parents to "talk to your kids about what's going on in their social media. Stay connected with their interests." She adds, "Teach kids that they're responsible for their digital footprint. Let them

know that they have control over the device and to get help when they're in over their heads."

She stresses that it's important for kids to understand that privacy matters and to never give out personal information online. "Kids don't realize that whatever they put online can come back to haunt them as adults. They must consider where their information might end up and must never share passwords or electronic devices with others."

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Nominate a 2019 Moraga Citizen of the Year

Now is the time to consider who you would like to nominate for Moraga's 2019 "Citizen of the Year." The selection committee is made up of the 2018 Citizens of the Year Sam and Susan Sperry as well as representatives from the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, Saint Mary's College, Moraga Citizen's Network and the Moraga Valley Kiwanis Club.

The basic criteria for selecting this year's Citizen are:

1. The nominee must be someone who has given of their time, talent and energy to make Moraga a vibrant community, one where people want to live, work and shop.
2. The nominee must be someone whose body of work has brought the community together and makes folks proud to be Moraga residents.
3. Nominees may include any resident with a Moraga address other than paid public officials, current elected members of the Moraga Town Council, or other elected officials.
4. In making your nomination, please include examples of their contribution to Moraga.

Please email your nominations to nominations@lamorindaweekly.com or send them to "Moraga Citizen of the Year Nominations," Lamorinda Weekly, PO Box 6133, Moraga CA 94556.

The deadline for receiving your nomination is March 27. The celebration dinner will be held on Saturday, April 27 at Saint Mary's College Soda Center.

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