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CITY OF SANTA CLARA

HISTORICAL AND LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING

June 5, 2008 - Thursday
City Manager's Staff Conference Room
1500 Warburton Avenue, Santa Clara
*****MINUTES*****
7:00 P.M.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

The following items from these Historical and Landmarks Commission minutes are recommendations to the City Council and will be scheduled for Council review following the conclusion of hearings and recommendations by the Historical and Landmarks Commission. Due to timing of notices for Council hearings and the preparation of Council agenda reports, these items may be heard concurrently with, or subsequent to, the Council review of these minutes. Please contact the Planning Division office for information on the schedule of hearings for these items:

Agenda Item VIII.A. Request for Historic Designation and Mills Act Contract – 1212 Pierce Street (PLN2008-07005).

Agenda Item VIII.B. Request for Mills Act Contract – 1077 Harrison Street (PLN2008-07035).

Agenda Item VIII.C. Request for Historic Designation and Mills Act Contract – 1655 Santa Clara Street (PLN2008-07056).

I. Call to Order
Chairperson McKee called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call
Mary Ann Marinshaw, Gerald McKee, Charles Petersen, Ed Richards and Rosalie Wilson.

The Commission noted Commissioner Christina Francisco Patton was absent and unexcused.

Staff present: City Planner Carol Anne Painter, HLC Staff Liaison/Associate Planner Jeff Schwilk.

Also present: Resident Don Arnoldy and Honorary City Historian Lorie Garcia

III. Requests for withdrawals and continuances without a hearing
There were none.

IV. Approval of Minutes of May 1, 2008
It was moved by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and carried to approve the Minutes of the May 1, 2008 Historical and Landmarks Commission meeting as written.

V. Council and Planning Commission Actions Pertaining to the Historical and Landmarks Commission (Discussion as Needed)
Mr. Schwilk reviewed the City Council and Planning Commission minutes and summaries from the May meetings, for hearings and actions pertaining to the Historical and Landmarks Commission.

VI. Correspondence/Announcements
A. General Correspondence Distributed in Commission Packet
There was no discussion.

VII. Public Presentations
Honorary City Historian Lorie Garcia informed the Commission that demolition work appeared to be occurring at Santa Clara University, to the ROTC building and Field house, and also to the Rickard Observatory, and questioned the Commission on its knowledge of the work being performed.

It was then moved by Commissioner Petersen, seconded by Commissioner Richards and carried, to direct staff to research this matter and report back to the Commission at the August 7th meeting.

VIII. New Business
A. Request for Historic Designation and Mills Act Contract – 1212 Pierce Street (PLN2008-07005).
Representing the project, owner Brian Parker was present for the discussion. Mr. Schwilk reviewed the request for historic designation and a Mills Act Contract. He noted the applicant had contracted with an outside consultant to perform the necessary DPR (historic report) per State guidelines. He noted the research found the property retains sufficient integrity to qualify as a historic property and appears to be, based on compliance with the Local Significant Criteria, eligible for listing on the City of Santa Clara Architecturally or Historically significant Properties List. He then reviewed some of the improvements planned by the new property owners.

Mr. Parker reviewed the proposed 10-year preservation plan. He noted the house has a mudsill foundation, which he is proposing to replace in the first year.

Motions:
It was moved by Commissioner Petersen, seconded by Commissioner Richards, and unanimously carried (Commissioner Patton absent) to recommend City Council add the property to the City's Historically/Architecturally Significant Properties List for the property located at 1212 Pierce Street.

It was moved by Commissioner Petersen, seconded by Commissioner Richards, and unanimously carried (Commissioner Patton absent) to recommend City Council approval of a Mills Act Contract for the property located at 1212 Pierce Street.

B. Request for Mills Act Contract – 1077 Harrison Street (PLN2008-07035).
Commissioner Petersen abstained from the hearing and action on this item. Representing the project, owner Sarah Doty was present for the discussion. Mr. Schwilk then reviewed the DPR report and some of the improvements planned by the new property owner.
Ms. Doty reviewed the proposed 10-year preservation plan, clarified that she is proposing to restore (not replace) the rotted windows, and also clarified that chimney was in poor condition and has been removed. She noted that the brick from the original portion of this chimney would be reused on site as pavers to create a rear patio area.

Motion:
It was then moved by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and unanimously carried (Commissioner Patton absent) to recommend City Council approval of a Mills Act Contract for the property located at 1077 Harrison Street.

Charles Petersen then addressed the Commission as a nearby resident and stated his hope that the City will someday designate this entire block of Harrison Street a Historic Block.

C. Request for Historic Designation and Mills Act Contract – 1655 Santa Clara Street (PLN2008-07056).
Representing the project, Lorie Garcia and owners Erin Roll and Brian Johns were present for the discussion. Mr. Schwilk reviewed the request for historic designation and a Mills Act Contract. He noted the applicant had contracted with an outside consultant to perform the necessary DPR (historic report) per State guidelines. He noted the research found the property retains sufficient integrity to qualify as a historic property and appears to be, based on compliance with the Local Significant Criteria, eligible for listing on the City of Santa Clara Architecturally or Historically significant Properties List. He then reviewed some of the improvements planned by the new property owners.

Motions:
It was moved by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried (Commissioner Patton absent) to recommend City Council add the property to the City's Historically/Architecturally Significant Properties List for the property located at 1655 Santa Clara Street.

It was moved by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried (Commissioner Patton absent) to recommend City Council approval of a Mills Act Contract for the property located at 1655 Santa Clara Street, subject to adding a requirement that the nonconforming accessory unit be brought up to date with respect to current building, electrical and plumbing safety codes as

part of the 10-year preservation plan, if feasible, and if complying with these safety codes will not conflict with the historic goals of the City.

IX. Old Business, Referrals and Continued Items

The Commission revisited its roll call, and noted three consecutive unexcuesed absences of Commissioner Patton. The Commission requested that staff report back on the Council's policy related to this issue.

X. Commissioner/Committee Reports

A. Santa Clara Arts and Historic Consortium (McKee)

[Fourth Monday of each month at 7:15 p.m. - Headen-Inman House]

Chairperson McKee noted there has not been a meeting to report on.

B. Historic Preservation Society of Santa Clara (Marinshaw)

[Second Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m.- Harris Lass Preserve]

Commissioner Marinshaw noted the Society would be hosting the Annual Tea and Fashion Show on Sunday, June 8th.

C. Old Quad Residents Association (Richards/McKee alternate)

It was noted there was no news to report.

D. Neighborhood University Relations (Petersen)

It was noted there was no news to report.

E. Architectural Committee (Patton)

Commissioner Marinshaw noted she attended the May 21st Architectural Committee meeting.

F. Agnews Historic Cemetery Museum Committee (Wilson and Patton)

Commissioner Wilson noted there was no news to report.

G. BART Committee (Marinshaw)

Commissioner Marinshaw noted that she did not attend the May stakeholder meeting for the Station Area Plan, but did attend a recent City meeting, at which the Station Area Plan and proposed future BART maintenance building was discussed.

H. General Plan Steering Committee (Richards/Petersen)

Commissioner Richards noted he would be attending the upcoming meeting, and encouraged all residents to attend.

Ms. Painter noted that General Plan community workshops are planned for late June, and that notice would be provided to the Commissioners. She also noted that additional discussion could be agendized for the August 7th meeting.

Ms. Painter handed out copies of the General Plan update brochure that was mailed to all residents in the City. She then reviewed upcoming stakeholder meeting and

Community workshop dates with the Commission. Ms. Painter noted that the first General Plan Steering Committee meeting is scheduled to occur on July 10th. This is a leadership group comprised of representatives from City Commissions and boards, as well as three residents to be appointed by City Council on June 10th. She noted the public is welcome to attend, and mentioned that a community survey will also be mailed out this Fall.

XI. Items Considered, Time Permitting

A. Staff Communication

Ms. Painter referred to a recent article in the June 4th edition of the Santa Clara Weekly newspaper introducing her as the new City Planner to the community. She noted there was an error in this article that warranted clarification for the Historical and Landmarks Commission. She noted that a statement in paragraph #8 of this article was incorrect, and should have been written to state:

"Whether it's maximizing housing resources, or minimizing traffic and impacts to historic preservation, all of these areas and issues have value," she explains."

B. Commission Report on Training/Conferences

XII. Pending Agenda Items (notice of upcoming agenda items only- No discussion)

A. It was noted and acknowledged that, since no time-sensitive pending agenda items have been scheduled for the July 3, 2008 meeting, this meeting will be cancelled.

XIII. Adjournment

It was then moved by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried (Commissioner Patton absent), to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. to the scheduled meeting of August 7, 2008.

Approved: Jeff Schwilk, AICP
Associate Planner

Approved: Carol Anne Painter
City Planner

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