

Agenda item 7A: Review of 2017 staff and Commission goals identified at the HRC meeting in January 2017 and progress made toward goals, and new goals for 2018.

A. Staff goals from 2017:

1. Retain historic consultant to assist with reviews of complex projects, provide peer reviews, review projects for conformance with the Secretary of the Interior Standards, and assist with other tasks.

Review: Consultant ARG has contracted with the County to provide the above services on an on-call basis.

2. Update handouts for historic resources, including brochure on what can I do with my historic property to include incentives for historic resources.

Review: New Brochure completed (attached)

3. Research training opportunities for the year including seminars and discuss at the next meeting.

Review: Training for 2017 a web-based training from the National Park Service, "Walk through Historic Buildings." Training completed on an individual basis by Commissioners in December 2017 or January 2018.

B. Staff goals for 2018:

Due to other responsibilities and assignments in the Sustainability and Special Projects section and priorities established by the Board of Supervisors, staff time to undertake new initiatives or ordinances related to Historic Preservation is very limited in 2018. The following staff goals are identified for 2018, focused on providing the Commission the resources needed to accomplish tasks and goals and run effective meetings:

1. Review projects in a timely manner. (Currently two applications are in the process of being submitted.)
2. Provide Commission with resources needed to accomplish goals and tasks, including Inventory-clean-up and identifying buildings whose condition may have changed since the last inventory update. Assist with any nominations to the Museum of Art and History Awards.
3. Schedule training for the Commission with the new County Historic Resources Consultant on a topic of interest to the Commission.
4. Discussion with HRC regarding county code requirements for demolition and partial demolition of historic resources, scope of HRC authority, criteria for issuing redtags, and how best to describe projects involving demolition to the public.

Commission Goals from 2017:

The HRC identified the following goals in January 2017, to be discussed and prioritized, including a discussion of available staff resources and costs where information is available:

1. Research training opportunities for the year. Consider inviting SHPO staff to present to the Commission, and partnering with city on public workshop, etc.

Review: Training for 2017 a web-based training from the National Park Service, "Walk

through Historic Buildings.”

2. Consider clean-up of Inventory, to identify buildings whose condition may have changed since the last inventory update, and to correct information in the Inventory.
Staff recommendation: Discuss progress made toward Inventory clean-up on the April or July 2018 agenda. Identify goals of clean-up, and resources available to the Commission to review properties in Inventory.
3. Discuss applications for demolition and partial demolition of historic resources, including a review code requirements, scope of HRC authority, and how best to describe projects involving demolition to the public.
Review: This discussion will be scheduled for the April 2018 agenda.
4. Continue to work on watch list.
Review: 3 properties added to watch list, with additional properties under review. Department procedures in place to ensure Development Review staff is aware of watch list status.
5. Commissioners requested an update from staff regarding the Aptos Village Project.
Review: Update provided by staff in May 2017 as part of the amendment to the Historic Preservation Plan for the Hihn Apple Barn.
6. Commissioner Merriam will research the Mills Act and bring information to the next HRC meeting to discuss. Recommended considering the formation of a subcommittee.
Review: Commissioner Merriam provided a PowerPoint presentation the Commission in July 2017. Motion made to place on next available agenda further discussion of the Mills Act, including information from the Planning Department on the feasibility of implementing a Mills Act program and process for providing a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Staff recommendation: At this time, staff is not available develop and initiate new programs. Based upon costs to the county to implement a Mills Act program, and staff time required to develop and implement program, staff believes that the feasibility of implementing a Mills Act program within the next two years is low. Recommend revisiting the idea of developing and implementing a Mills Act program in 2019.
7. Commissioner Merriam to research ordinances preventing demolition by neglect and report back at the next meeting.
Review: Commissioner Merriam provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission in July 2017.

Staff Recommendation: Inventory clean-up including identifying structures whose conditions may have deteriorated will help to identify scope of the problem of demolition by neglect. Recommend further discussion of potential approaches to addressing demolition by neglect on the October 2018 agenda, including evaluating incentive-based approaches.

Commission Goals for 2018:

To be discussed at meeting.