



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, 4TH FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-2580 FAX: (831) 454-2131 TDD: CALL 711

KATHLEEN MOLLOY, PLANNING DIRECTOR

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022

9:30 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING

LOCATION: HYBRID MEETING, WITH OPTION TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY OR IN PERSON

LOCATION TO ATTEND IN PERSON: County Building, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, 4th floor Planning Department Conference Room

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
Chair Phillips called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
Commissioners Present: Orlando, Phillips, Swift, and Woods
Absent (excused): Commissioner Pearlman
Staff present: Annie Murphy, Staff to the HRC.
Stephanie Hansen, Assistant Director, Community Development and Infrastructure Department
Members of the public present
2. AGENDA APPROVAL OR MODIFICATION
MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ORLANDO: Modify the agenda to move agenda item 5A to appear as agenda item 5C-1, and add review of CalTrans late correspondence regarding the proposed alteration or replacement of a bridge in Boulder Creek as item 5F on the agenda.
SECOND: Commissioner Woods.
AYES: Orlando, Phillips, Swift and Woods
NOES: None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the regular meeting of April 4, 2022 and the special Meeting on March 28, 2022
Attachment: Minutes from March 28, 2022 and April 4, 2022
MOTION BY COMMISSOINER WOODS: Approve the minutes from the March 28 special meeting
SECOND: Commissioner Orlando
AYES: Orlando, Phillips, Swift and Woods
NOES: None

MOTION BY COMMISSOINER ORLANDO: Approve the minutes from the April 4 regular meeting

SECOND: Commissioner Woods

AYES: Orlando, Phillips, Swift and Woods

NOES: None

4. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

(Commissioner disclosure of oral and written communications and site visits related to applications appearing on this agenda)

No ex parte communications.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. (moved to appear as item 5C-1)

B. Review HRC budget

Attachment: Amount budgeted for HRC training and for Historic Resources consultant ARG

Ms. Murphy provided a review of amount in the Planning Department budget related to historic resources in the current fiscal year.

C. Discuss upcoming July presentation from the Museum of Art and History

Attachment: County Budget for MAH

Slides from previous presentations

For the July presentation, the Commission requested that MAH review their budget, identify how county funding was spend on specific activities and accomplishments related to historic preservation, and which activities were accomplished by MAH staff as opposed to volunteers, efforts to reach out to other museums, whether MAH has plans for a new history journal, whether MAH is still hosting regular meetings with other museums, identify funds used to operate the Davenport Jail and Octagon Building, and clarify if any funds go toward maintenance of the Octagon building or Davenport Jail.

The Commission discussed whether they could be reimbursed for expenses related to the History Fair, and including HRC expenses related to public education in future budgets. Stephanie Hansen recommended Commissioners to submit incidental expenses related to the History Fair to staff, who will look into whether funds in the current budget are available to cover these expenses. Ms. Hansen also recommended approaching the Board of Supervisors in the fall for funds in the County Budget for future HRC incidental expenses related to public education.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ORLANDO:

Submit to the Parks Department for inclusion in the Contract with the Museum of Art and Historic the following language, to be added to MAH's duties: Provide hands-on assistance, share resources, and work together with other museums and organizations throughout the county to help with exhibits, programs, lectures and other public engagement related to historic preservation.

SECOND: Commissioner Woods

AYES: Orlando, Phillips, Swift and Woods

NOES: None Swift:

D. C1. Oral report from Planning Staff on the Planning Department Reorganization

Attachment: Draft Planning Division Organizational Chart

Stephanie Hansen, Assistant Planning Director, provided an overview of the new Community Development and Infrastructure Department

Break from 11:30 to 11:39

- E. Discuss Commission Goals, focusing on clean-up of Historic Resources Inventory, preventing demolition by neglect, and other goals as time permits.

Attachment: Goal Spreadsheets

The Commission discussed Goal 3 – Demolition and partial demolition

Staff provided an update regarding ordinances, noting that two amendments related to preventing demolition will be coming to the HRC. One is to require a permit for the approval of the demolition of any structure that is 50 years or older, and a DPR for any structure that may meet designation criteria. The second is to provide an Incentive-based approach to support the repair and rehabilitation of historic structures, where the County would allow additional uses beyond those allowed in the zone district, where such a use can support an economically viable use for the property and also support repair or restoration.

The Commission also discussed exploring the development of ordinance that includes an affirmative maintenance requirement for designated historic structures, to prevent demolition by neglect. This would appear as goal 3b if the Commission. The Commission discussed beginning to document designated resources that are not being maintained, and keep a list and a file that includes historic and current photos, reasons why the building is significant from the DPR form, and what is the current status of the building. Ms. Murphy will provide a template to the Commission to document these buildings.

Goal 4 – Watch List Maintenance

Annie to send out a copy of the Watch List after the meeting.

The Commission will continue to track progress on goals on the Spreadsheets.

- F. Status report from Staff on the Sustainability Update

Ms. Murphy reported that the Sustainability Update drafts are complete, and that the draft EIR is available to review, and comments can be accepted thru May 31, 2022. Staff will be bringing updated language in the General Plan for the Commission to review in July.

- G. *Review CalTrans late correspondence regarding the proposed alteration or replacement of a bridge on Highway 236 in Boulder Creek.*

Attachments: Draft DPR form prepared by CalTrans.

The Commission commented that these neoclassic bridges are becoming less common in California as they are being replaced. This bridge contributes to the character of the San Lorenzo Valley. The commission recommended that the bridge repaired if possible, retaining the original railing, rather than replacing the structure with a modern bridge. The Commission also asked what the style of the replacement bridge would look like.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Report back from History Fair Subcommittee

Commissioner Woods reviewed the proposed interactive booth design, with photos of historic properties, and a quiz regarding each resource, with prizes.

7. COMMISSIONER PRESENTATIONS/ INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

8. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

9. REVIEW OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

For July or future Agenda:

Elect Chair and Vice Chair.

Presentation by the MAH to the HRC.

Review and provide comments on the updated General Plan policies for Historic Preservation in the Sustainability Update.

Discuss options for acknowledging public comments in the minutes.

Review Goal action items, including creating a list of training opportunities, and progress on the action items.

Continue review of goals, starting with goal 5, the Mills Act, and adding the amount budgeted for historic preservation as a new goal and discussing the use of the funds for the HRC consultant.

Presentation by county Counsel regarding their role working with Commissions and answer any questions from the Commission, including questions regarding the Brown Act.

Report back from staff regarding the amount budgeted in prior years for updating the historic resources Inventory.

Report back from staff regarding updated MAH duties in the contract.

Report back from the subcommittee on the History Fair.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 pm.

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. The Planning Department meeting room is located in an accessible facility. If you are a person with a disability and require special assistance in order to participate in the meeting, please call 454-3137 (TDD/ TTY call 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.

APPEALS

In accordance with Santa Cruz County Code Section 16.42.110, denials or approvals of Historic Preservation Plans by the Historic Resources Commission are appealable to the Board of Supervisors. Pursuant to Santa Cruz County Code Section 18.10.340, appeals to the Board of Supervisors shall be taken by filing a written notice of appeals with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and submitting a copy of the notice along with the required appeal fee to the Planning Department, no later than fourteen calendar days following the date of the hearing from which the action was taken. For more information on appeals, please contact the Planning Department at 831-454-2580