



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION DRAFT MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023

9:30 A.M.

REGULAR MEETING

LOCATION: 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 Pearlman called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Phillips, Pearlman, and Woods

Commissioners Absent: Orlando

2nd District Commissioner seat: Vacant

Staff present: Annie Murphy, Staff to the HRC. Natisha Williams, Planner.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL OR MODIFICATION

Staff Liaison noted late addition of public correspondence from the Department of Transportation, and email from staff liaison to the HRC subcommittee regarding the County budget.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the regular meeting of October 3, 2022

Attachment: Minutes from October 3, 2022

MOTION TO APPROVE: Commissioner Phillips

SECOND: Commissioner Woods

AYES: Phillips, Pearlman, Woods

ABSENT: Orlando

4. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

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

Commission Chair Pearlman reported that he visited the site of the WWI memorial, related to agenda item 8D.

5. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Members of the public may speak on items **not** on this agenda)

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Approve a Resolution to continue virtual Historic Resources Commission meetings in accordance with AB 361 and amended Government Code Section 54953.

Attachment: Resolution

MOTION TO APPROVE: Commissioner Woods

SECOND: Commissioner Phillips

AYES: Phillips, Pearlman, and Woods

ABSENT: Orlando

7. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

No public hearing items

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation from the Santa Cruz County Administrative Office on the County's Operational Plan, the "Santa Cruz Like Me" Committee, and the Climate Action Plan Commission.

Commissioners provided feedback, including on HRC goals and the need to update information on the County website regarding historic resources and the HRC, and digitize the Historic Resources Inventory and make available online.

- B. Consider resolution acknowledging the contributions of Carolyn Swift to the Historic Resources Commission

Chair Pearlman will draft a resolution, assisted by Commission Staff.

- C. Discuss purchase by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission of the historically designated property at 7992 Soquel Drive in Aptos (APN 039-232-03), rated NR-3.

Attachment 1: DPR form

Attachment 2: Letter from Becky Steinbruner

As reported by staff Liaison, the RTC authorized the purchase of the property for use as a right of way for the Coastal Rail Trail. RTC staff noted that the garage on the property may require demolition to accommodate the trail. The Commissioner requested Staff to report back at the next meeting regarding permitting for recent improvements to the residence.

- D. Review letter re: WWI monument

Attachment: Letter from Becky Steinbruner

Chair Pearlman will draft a letter to the Lion's club, noting that they are welcome to apply to designate the property, with a link to applicable County Code provisions.

Commission break from 11:01 to 11:06

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Report back from Subcommittee (Commissioners Phillips and Pearlman) with an overview of the current information on the CDI (Planning) Department website regarding the HRC and Historic Preservation (Goal 6).

Subcommittee reported back on their initial review of website, noting that information can be difficult to find. The subcommittee will continue to review and make recommendations, and report back again at the April or July meeting, considering progress on the Planning Department (CDI) website.

- B. Report back from Subcommittee (Commissioners Woods and Pearlman) regarding County budget recommendations for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to support the work of the HRC.

Attachment: Draft Letter to Board of Supervisors

Email from Annie Murphy to subcommittee (late addition)

The Commission reviewed the subcommittee letter, and considered email from staff. The Commission will keep letter with recommendations on file, and consider resubmitting to Board when economic conditions improve. Staff noted that \$1,000 is proposed for HRC training in the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget, and \$250 for incidental expenses to be shared by the Commission on the Environment and the HRC.

- C. Review action items related to Commission goals #3B (Preventing demolition by neglect) and #5 (Mills Act)

Attachment 1: Goal Action Items PowerPoint (Commissioner Phillips)

Attachment 2: 2023 California Preservation Foundation Conference Information (Goal 1)

The Commission reviewed goal action items, and goals not reviewed in the past year. For goal 3B, tracking demolition by neglect, staff will provide a completed template tracking the condition of historic structures at the April meeting.

For goal 5, the Commission requested that staff follow up with communities regarding the year they implemented the Mills Act, number of historic properties in their community, total number of contracts, and average number of new contracts per year.

- D. Continue review of HRC goals, including goal #2 (Inventory Cleanup), 6 (CDI website), 7 (Local History events), 8 (walking tours), 9 (Secretary of the Interior Standards Training), 11 (Grants), and 12 (State Historic Tax Credit); discuss goals to archive; and consider deferring goals #3A and 4.

Attachment 1: Spreadsheet of archived (completed) goals

Attachment 2: State Historic Tax Credit information (Goal 12)

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WOODS: Support attending the CPF Conference in April for one day, with a report back from Staff at the April meeting regarding costs and program.

SECOND: Commissioner Phillips

AYES: Phillips, Pearlman, and Woods

ABSENT: Orlando

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PHILLIPS: Commissioners Pearlman and Woods to form a subcommittee to work with staff to find an intern to assist with updating the

Inventory, and return with an update at the April meeting including an appropriate time frame for this work.

SECOND: Commissioner Woods

AYES: Phillips, Pearlman, and Woods

ABSENT: Orlando

Regarding goal #1, Training opportunities, Ms. Murphy will provide password to Commissioners who have not yet taken the Historic Preservation Bootcamp training.

Goal 2, Clean-up of Inventory: Staff recommended discussing at a future HRC meeting

Goal 3A: Staff intends to bring an ordinance to the April HRC meeting.

Goal 6, website: Commissioner Phillips reported that she would like her email address to be provided on the website.

Goal #11, research applying for CLG grants, will be discussed in October, with information on the grant application to be included in the packet.

- E. Continue review of HRC goals, including goal #1 (HRC Training), 2 (Inventory Cleanup), 6 (CDI website), 7 (Local History events), 8 (walking tours), 9 (Secretary of the Interior Standards Training), 11 (Grants), and 12 (State Historic Tax Credit); discuss goals to archive; and consider deferring goals #3A and 4.

Attachment 1: Spreadsheet of archived (completed) goals

Attachment 2: State Historic Tax Credit information (Goal 12)

10. COMMISSIONER PRESENTATIONS/ INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11. HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION STAFF UPDATE

Commission Liaison reported on the 2022-2023 Atmospheric River Storms, noting that none of the properties damaged by the storm and tagged as red or yellow were designated historic properties. Commission Liaison will follow up with comment from Commissioner Phillips regarding storm damage to the Evan Bennet house on Empire Grade in Bonny Doon.

12. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Email correspondence from Becky Steinbruner re: wildfire reduction risk and historic properties.

Correspondence from the Ca Department of Transportation re: the bridge in Boulder Creek.

The Commission considered preparing a press release regarding the role of the Commission in preserving the bridge.

13. REVIEW OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

The Commission noted the following items for future agendas:

- *Report back from subcommittee on CDI website review and recommendations.*
- *Report back from staff on permitting history for 7992 Soquel Avenue.*
- *Discuss attending CPF Conference in April.*
- *Report back from staff liaison re: Commission follow-up questions to communities with*

Mills Act contracts.

- *Staff liaison to provide ordinances regarding demolition to Commission for review*

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 1:04 PM BY COMMISSIONER WOODS

SECOND: Commissioner Phillips

AYES: Phillips, Pearlman, and Woods

ABSENT: Orlando

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

