



# County of Santa Cruz

---

## Department of Community Development and Infrastructure

701 Ocean Street, Fourth Floor, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Planning (831) 454-2580      Public Works (831) 454-2160  
sccoplanning.com              dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us

## HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

### MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026

9:30 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING

**Location of Meeting: 701 Ocean Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Planning, LRG Conf. Room**

---

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

*Chair Newhouse calls the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.*

*Commissioners Absent/Excused: Commissioner Pearlman excused (Dist. 4)*

*Commissioners Present: Jim Evans (Dist. 1), Kevin Newhouse (Dist. 2), Lucia Orlando (Dist. 3), Lynda Phillips (District 5)*

*County Staff present: Mark Connolly (Policy Section Supervisor), Matthew Sundt (Staff liaison), Skyler Kriese, newly assigned HRC Staff Liaison and newly assigned Historic Resources Planner (Planner II)*

*Guest: Becky Steinbruner and Museum of Art and History (MAH) Executive Director Ginger Shulick Porcella*

2. APPROVE AGENDA – APPROVAL AS IS or with MODIFICATION

*MOTION TO APPROVE with modifications: Commissioner Orlando*

*SECOND: Commissioner Phillips*

*AYES: Jim Evans (Dist. 1), Kevin Newhouse (Dist. 2), Lucia Orlando (Dist. 3), Lynda Phillips (District 5)*

***Approved Agenda Modifications:*** (1) Agenda Item 9A to be cross referenced to Goal 3B, (2) Agenda Item 9B to be cross referenced to Goal 15, and (3) for all future agenda items, it will be necessary to determine if an agenda item is included in the list of HRC Goals. If so, it will be necessary to cross reference item to the Goals matrix.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the Special Meeting of April 28, 2026.

*MOTION TO APPROVE: Commissioner Phillips*

*SECOND: Commissioner Orlando*

*AYES: Jim Evans (Dist. 1), Kevin Newhouse (Dist. 2), Lucia Orlando (Dist. 3), Lynda Phillips (District 5)*

**Public Communication:** *Becky Steinbruner states that there is reference to Demolition by Neglect Ordinance in previous meetings. Staff Liaison Sundt reiterates text in Agenda 8A that states no historic BOS or PC agenda was found that relates to such ordinance. However, Staff Liaison Sundt conveyed that there had been previous discussion on the subject at HRC meetings.*

*[Although not stated at the April 28 special Meeting, the previous HRC meetings where the ordinance was discussed included the following meetings: July 1, 2019, Jan 6, 2020, and Jan 23, 2021. In addition, on April 10, 2017, there was BOS discussion related to 'Demolition and Partial Demolition', but this was not a Demolition by Neglect Ordinance. Herein may be the basis for confusion – i.e., 'Demolition and Partial Demolition' vs. a Demolition by Neglect Ordinance.]*

**Approved 2/9/26 Minutes w/ Modifications:** *Agenda Item 8A is cross referenced to HRC Goal 3B and Agenda 9A is cross referenced to HRC Goal 16.*

4. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS  
(Commissioner disclosure of oral and written communications and site visits related to applications appearing on this agenda):
  - A. Commissioner Phillips reports on the March 19, 2026 meeting at the Locatelli Barn in Boulder Creek. Meeting attended by Commissioner Phillips, Supervising Building Inspector Raison Dean, and HRC Staff Liaison Matthew Sundt to address deterioration.
5. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Members of the public may speak on items **not** on this agenda and not to exceed three minutes): Becky Steinbruner: discusses SCCC Section 16.42 revisions. Disagrees with staff's approach to make delistings for historic structures that no longer exist because of flooding, fire, earthquakes, and other natural calamities, an administrative procedure requiring CDI Director approval without HRC review/approval. Said administrative delistings would be presented to the next HRC meeting for consideration. Ms. Steinbruner also states that with an administrative delisting there would be an incentive for those who own historic buildings to burn their buildings.
6. CONSENT ITEMS  
*No consent items*
7. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS  
*No public hearing items*
8. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Introduction of new HRC Staff Liaison Skyler Kriese.
  - B. *MAH Executive Director Ginger Shulick Porcella presents on the activities and budget of the MAH*
  - C. Discussion on May History Fair
  - D. Review and approve forwarding Certified Local Government annual report to OHP.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CLG ANNUAL REPORT WITH MODIFICATIONS:**

Commissioner Phillips

**SECOND:** Commissioner Orlando

AYES: Jim Evans (Dist. 1), Kevin Newhouse (Dist. 2), Lucia Orlando (Dist. 3), Lynda Phillips (District 5)

**Approved Agenda Modifications:** *Appointment dates of Commissioners updated as well as term ending dates.*

9. CONTINUING BUSINESS

- A. Point made that the demo ordinance needs to be cross referenced with HRC Goal 3B. Discussion about taking ordinance to BOS on May 26 [*note: what was not said during this meeting is that the ordinance has to be reviewed and edited, if necessary, by Assistant Planning Director and County Counsel. The ordinance must be reintroduced to the HRC – perhaps at the June 8 HRC meeting. The HRC would review (second time) and make a motion that the ordinance be forwarded to the Planning Commission with or without modifications by the HRC.*]
- B. Point made that the Mills Act needs to be cross referenced with HRC Goal 15.

10. COMMISSIONER PRESENTATIONS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:  
*No public presentations/information items.*

11. HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION STAFF UPDATE  
*Staff provides a short summary on each of the following:*

- A. 1104 Pilger Road (Boulder Creek area off Bear Creek Road);
- B. Update on SCCC 16.42 – Historic Preservation - Historic Resources Planner;
- C. Staff discussion with SCCTC regarding demolition of non-historic structures adjacent to historic Arano and Rice Houses @ 7992, 7994, and 7996 Soquel Drive – RTC likely using a local architectural historian.
- D. Letter to Bob Locatelli owner of deteriorating historic structure in Boulder Creek at 13190 Central Avenue (Hwy 9);
- E. HRC Commissioners need to commence/continue with site inspections, photo documentation of historic structures in respective districts.

12. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS  
None to discuss

13. REVIEW OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- A. Recap of the May 16 History Fair
- B. Commissioners to review three properties in their respective districts and report – photos, etc.
- C. Demolition by Neglect Ordinance
- D. Mills Act
- E. Future grant opportunities

14. ADJOURNMENT @ 12:29 pm

**MOTION TO APPROVE:** Commissioner Orlando

**SECOND:** Commissioner Phillips

**AYES:** Jim Evans (Dist. 1), Kevin Newhouse (Dist. 2), Lucia Orlando (Dist. 3), Lynda Phillips (District 5)

---

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of 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.