



HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

7:00 p.m. Monday, February 22, 2010
Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers
1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER

Chair KREISMAN called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair KREISMAN, Vice-Chair BAKER, Commissioners BISHOP, DREWES, LONEY, MARFATIA and WELSH.
Staff: Associate Planner DAHL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of minutes from the January 25, 2010 Historical Commission meeting.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DREWES SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to approve Consent Calendar.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Draft Historical Preservation Ordinance and Rating Methodology

Staff Liaison DAHL presented the draft historic rating methodology and requested feedback from the Commission.

The Commission discussed the draft methodology and the proposed criteria for landmark, significant and important resources, noting that having three categories titled Landmark, Historically Significant, and Contributing might be more appropriate and consistent with State practice. Commissioners expressed support for the three step process for reviewing resources, but noted that the second step, the integrity threshold, appeared too confusing and should be simplified; perhaps as a pass/fail type of evaluation. It was noted that the methodology should have a conclusion/end section that discussed the base thresholds to be listed under each category and to outline the practical implications of being listed under each category. The Commission also noted that a de-listing process should be provided.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DREWES, to have three categories included in the Rating Methodology– Landmark, Historically Significant and Historically Contributing.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LONEY SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to have two categories included in the second step of the Local Criteria in the Rating Methodology – Retains Integrity (Less than 50% of structure has been modified and/or character defining features have not been altered to a state that is irreversible) and Does Not Retain Integrity (More than 50% of structure modified and/or modifications to character defining features are non-reversible).
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to support a three-step evaluation system in the Rating Methodology and to direct staff to work with the consultant to further define the thresholds and bring it back to the Commission for further consideration.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Margaret Thompson Essay Contest

Commissioner LONEY reported that the essay contest is in process and that the essays will be judged on March 28, 2010.

NO MOTION

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

None

DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair KREISMAN adjourned the meeting at 8:52 PM.

Zachary Dahl, AICP
Staff Liaison to the Historical Commission