



HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

7:00 p.m Monday, June 22, 2009
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 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

MINUTES

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DREWES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to approve the April 27, 2009 meeting minutes.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0) LONEY and MARFATIA Abstained.

DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC INTEREST ITEMS

1. Creekside Oaks Historic Barn

Members of the Creekside Oaks Barn Committee spoke for and against having the barn added to the Historic Resources Inventory. Concerns were raised that listing the barn as a historic resource would require the Association, under City Code, to spend money to maintain the barn and open it up for public viewing. The Barn Committee also invited staff and members of the Commission to attend a panel discussion to discuss the future of the Barn at Creekside Oaks on July 13, 2009.

Staff noted that the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance did not mandate property owners to maintain a structure or open it up for public viewing.

The Commission noted that the recommendation to add the barn to the Historic Resources Inventory had already been made and that no new historic information had been presented to change the historic evaluation of the barn.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DREWES, to have a Historical Commission member attend the Creekside Oaks Barn meeting.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. 482 University Avenue, The Halsey House

Staff Liaison DAHL presented the updated historic evaluations for the City owned properties and answered questions from the Commission.

The Commission expressed general support for the updated evaluations but noted their continued concern about current historical evaluation practices not being equivalent to the Kalman scale rating system that was used for evaluating the historical resources on the original Historic Resources Inventory.

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DREWES, to accept the updated historic property evaluations for the Halsey House, the San Antonio Club, the Smith House and the Neutra House with the following conditions:

- The memo from Circa: Historic Property Development (d. June 18, 2009) shall be filed with the updated evaluations; and
- The updated Kalman Scores shall not be considered equivalent to the original Kalman scores.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. 647 N. San Antonio Road, The San Antonio Club
See Action taken under Item No. 2.

4. 51 S. San Antonio Road, The Smith House
See Action taken under Item No. 2.

5. 183 Hillview Avenue, The Neutra House
See Action taken under Item No. 2.

6. Historic Preservation Ordinance

The Commission discussed the need to update the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance prior to adopting the new historic properties and discussed ways to integrate the existing Kalman scoring system with the current method of historic evaluation recommended by the State. The Commission decided to review more information pertaining to Historic Preservation ordinances and come back at a future meeting to make specific recommendations to the City Council.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner LONEY provided a final report on the Margaret Thompson Essay Contest.

The Historical Commission thanked Commissioner LONEY for his work in organizing the event.

DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair KREISMAN requested that the Historic Preservation Ordinance remain on the agenda for the next Historical Commission meeting as a discussion item.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair KREISMAN adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM.