



HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

7:00 p.m Monday, March 23, 2009
Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers
One 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, LONEY, MARFATIA and WELSH.
Absent: Commissioners DREWES.
Staff: Staff Liaison DAHL and Historical Consultant McELROY

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

MINUTES

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, to approve the February 23, 2009 meeting minutes.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC INTEREST ITEMS

1. 236 Eleanor Avenue

Staff Liaison DAHL presented the staff report and made himself available for questions.

The project designer spoke in support of the proposed project, noting that the existing barn was not usable as a garage.

A neighbor spoke in opposition to the project, noting that the existing barn had a non-conforming side yard setback and could create a potential noise impact on her property.

The Commissioners spoke in general support of the proposed project, noting that the accessory structures were not visible from the street and did not impact the existing historic house.

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, to recommend approval of the proposed project with the following condition:

- The detached structures shall be differentiated from the main historic house.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

2. Historic Resources Inventory (HIRI) Update

Staff Liaison DAHL and the Historical Consultant McELROY presented the historic property evaluations and made themselves available for questions.

Chair KREISMAN opened the meeting for public comment and the following members of the public spoke:

Katrina Sherer, 24 Marvin Avenue
Gregg Ann Herren, 390 San Luis Avenue
Jon Baer, 55 Pepper Drive
Pat Woodward, 566 S. El Monte Avenue
Lou Kordus, 969 Crooked Creek Drive
Kristin Joseph, 81 Pepper Drive
Tom Morlini, 87 Lyell Street
Doug Aikins, 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
Dan Casas, 1 First Street
Nick Gera, 100 S. Murphy Ave #102, Sunnyvale
Armon King, 530 Cherry Avenue

A majority of the members of the public raised concerns about adding their properties to the HRI, noting that there could be negative impacts to the property value and their ability to use and enjoy their property. Several members spoke in support of expanding the HRI to include properties that contributed to the history and character of Los Altos.

The Commission discussed the HRI Update, noting that while it was important to identify and preserve historic resources, it was also important to make sure property owners were fully educated about the pros and cons of a historic designation. The Commission also noted that the setting/context is very important in determining if a property is historic and should be added to the HRI.

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, to recommend adding 604 Milverton Road to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, to recommend adding 125 Lyell Street to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, to table 26 Pasa Robles Avenue and bring back for future consideration for addition to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 388 Second Street to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED 4-2 (LONEY AND MARFATIA).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 87 Lyell Street to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED 4-2 (LONEY AND WELSH).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 166 Hawthorne Avenue to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED 5-1 (LONEY).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to recommend adding 234 Live Oak Lane to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to recommend adding 366 Second Street to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED 4-2 (BAKER AND MARFATIA).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 81 Pepper Drive to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED 5-1 (LONEY).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to recommend adding 396 Van Buren Street to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to recommend adding 457 San Luis Avenue to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to remove 24 Marvin Avenue from consideration for addition to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to recommend adding 70 Marvin Avenue to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED 4-2 (LONEY AND BAKER).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to recommend adding 189 North Gordon Way to the Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, to table 420 South San Antonio Road and bring back for future consideration for addition to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 183 Hillview Avenue to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 1050 Portland Avenue to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED 4-1-1 (WELSH Opposed, LONEY Abstained).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 566 South El Monte Avenue to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, to recommend adding 1448 Fowler Court to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BISHOP, to recommend adding 530 Cherry Court to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0) (KREISMAN Abstained).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR BAKER, to recommend adding 718 Orange Avenue to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0).

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LONEY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WELSH, to remove 969 Crooked Creek Drive from consideration for addition to the Historic Resources Inventory.

THE MOTION CARRIED 5-1 (MARFATIA).

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner LONEY reported on the status of the Margaret Thompson Essay Contest.

DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner MARFATIA requested that the following items be added to a future agenda:

- Historical Commission Submittal Requirements
- Phase II of the HRI Update

Vice-Chair BAKER requested that the following items be added to a future agenda:

- Historical Preservation Ordinance Update
- Historic Preservation Award

ADJOURNMENT

Chair KREISMAN adjourned the meeting at 9:50 PM.

Zachary Dahl, AICP
Staff Liaison to the Historical Commission