




MINUTES
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, March 27, 2006
Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers
One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair DREWES called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. 

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chair DREWES, Vice Chair K GIRDLEY, Commissioners FOERSTER,
H. GIRDLEY, HAMBLIN

Absent: Commissioners BLAKE and SCHINK

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was moved by Vice Chair K. GIRDLEY, seconded by Commissioner FOERSTER to adopt the December 5, 2005 minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC INTEREST ITEMS:

1. **Neutra House:** Appoint Committee member to discuss potential landscape concepts with the Community Foundation. (DREWES)

Chair DREWES put this item on the agenda to inform the Commission of possible remodeling and landscaping of the Neutra House. Commissioner HAMBLIN mentioned that he has been asked by the Community Foundation to serve on a Committee reviewing the possible renovations. He is serving on the committee as a local architect, not as a member of the Historical Commission. Commissioner HAMBLIN mentioned the group is looking at three possible landscape designs that are being done Pro Bono. If they do not feel any of the designs are appropriate, they will seek additional concepts. Commissioner HAMBLIN also discussed the possible renovations to the building, which are intended to provide meeting facilities for the Community Foundation. The Commission discussed providing input about the possible work and the Commission's role in reviewing the project.

It was moved by Commissioner HAMBLIN and seconded by Vice Chair GIRDLEY, that Chair DREWES contact the Community Foundation regarding the possibility of including him on the Committee reviewing the renovations to the Neutra House.

The motion passed 5-0.

2. **Resource Inventory Update:** Discuss process to proceed with the grant from the Packard Foundation or request funds during the annual budget update to update the HRI and discuss identification of properties to be reviewed. (*Banks*)

The Committee discussed the process for updating the HRI to add additional properties. Staff Liaison BANKS provided an overview of the process used to complete the existing HRI. A professional firm did the historical and architectural analysis of the properties. The properties were then ranked by two architects on the Commission. To add additional properties, assistance is needed to review the properties and provide a recommendation to the Historical Commission. The Commission can then accept or revise the proposed ranking. The Committee agreed that Vice Chair K. GIRDLEY and Staff Liaison BANKS would speak with Mayor Packard about submitting a proposal to the Packard Foundation to obtain a grant to update the HRI. At the Council/Commission yearly meeting in December 2005, Mayor Packard indicated that he preferred that all applications from the City be submitted as one package. However, because of the need to initiate the update, the Commission would like to make the request as soon as possible.

It was moved by Commissioner FOERSTER and seconded by Commissioner HAMBLIN to appoint Vice Chair K. GIRDLEY to discuss with Mayor Packard applying to the Packard Foundation to add properties to the HRI.

The motion passed 5-0.

I was moved by Commissioner HAMBLIN and seconded by Commissioner H. GIRDLEY that updates to the HRI be evaluated by professionals for review and approval by the Historical Commission.

The motion passed 5-0.

3. **Selection of Chair and Vice Chair** (*DREWES*)

It was moved by Commissioner FOERSTER and seconded by Commissioner HAMBLIN to elect Vice Chair K. GIRDLEY as Chair and Commissioner H. GIRDLEY as Vice Chair.

The motion passed 5-0.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Staff provided information regarding the Ethics Training and the email from Commissioner BLAKE.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

The Commission requested that the following items be put on a future agenda: Essay Contest, Campbell Guide for Historical Houses. The Commission also requested that the Council assignment be updated to remove Commissioner DUREKAS and include Commissioner GIRDLEY.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:40 p.m.

Curtis Banks
Staff Liaison to the Historical Commission