



HISTORICAL COMMISSION ACTION MINUTES

Regular Meeting of April 25, 2005
City Council Chambers
1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Drewes, Vice-Chair Girdley, Commissioners Blake, Foerster, Hamblin, and Schink.
Absent: Durekas

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COMMISSIONER FOERSTER MOVED that the minutes of the March 28, 2005 Regular Meeting be approved with a correction to the vote on 41 Hawthorne Avenue (Hamblin abstained from that vote). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR GIRDLEY AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment was presented at the meeting.

SPECIAL ITEM

K. Lera, Museum Board Representative and Chair of the Museum Docents, was introduced as an observer.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Drewes reported on the Essay Contest, Ice Cream Social, and Awarding of the Prizes at the Council Meeting on May 10. The Ice Cream Social is at 6 pm on the Museum patio. Prizes are awarded at the Council Meeting at 7 pm.

The Chair had attended a Mayor's Meeting and a lunch of the new county-wide Regional Historic Preservation cooperation group. The Los Altos Village Association (LAVA) is interested in a program similar to St. Louis' "Walk of Fame" for the downtown. Nominations for the Los Altos "Walk of Fame" are being requested of organizations like the Historical Commission, Museum, etc. LAVA is interested in distributing the "Historic Walking Tour Brochure" in Lucite boxes around downtown. A former owner of the Costello Families' white barn is interested in helping with an Historic Resources Inventory entry and Primary Record Sheet for the barn which is in the Creekside Oaks development.

BUSINESS

- A. Approval of recommendation to the City Council regarding changes to the Municipal Code and the Historical Commission's need for access to the City's historical collection.

VICE-CHAIR GIRDLEY MOVED to reconsider the motion passed at the invalid Special Meeting attempted on April 21, 2005. COMMISSIONER FOERSTER SECONDED THE MOTION to reconsider the earlier motion passed to approve the sub-committee's memo and recommendation. MOTION to reconsider PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

COMMISSIONER FOERSTER MOVED to void the action taken at the invalid Special Meeting on April 21, 2005. VICE-CHAIR GIRDLEY SECONDED THE MOTION to void the action. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

COMMISSIONER HAMBLIN MOVED TO discuss the Memo from the sub-committee (Drewes, Girdley and Foerster) and its forwarding to Council. COMMISSIONER FOERSTER AMENDED COMMISSIONER HAMBLIN'S MOTION to move that the Memo from the Historical Commission's sub-committee be sent to City Council. COMMISSIONER BLAKE SECONDED THE AMENDED MOTION. The Commission changed "most" to "some" in the "Discussion" section, paragraph 2 in the Sub-Committee's Draft Memo. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

- B. Scheduling of recommendation to the City Council regarding changes to the Municipal Code and the Historical Commission's need for access to the City's historical collection. Eight business days are required to get an item on the Council's agenda. May 10, 2005 is therefore the likely date for this item.

COMMISSIONER GIRDLEY MOVED that the Commission and City make every effort to place this item on the May 10 Council Agenda. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BLAKE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

- C. "Historic Walking Tour Brochure" — Two checks; one from LAVA; the other from Los Altos Cultural Association (LACA) have been received. The City Council will accept the donations under the Consent element of the Agenda on April 26. COMMISSIONER FOERSTER MOVED a thank you letter to both organizations go out under Chair Drewes signature. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HAMBLIN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

- A. **Neutra Relocation Committee Report** - Chair Drewes reported the fundraising committee expressed confidence that the \$100,000 could be raised by the deadline.
- B. **Essay Contest** – It was requested that the winners' school information be passed to the Museum's Education Committee and to Assistant Superintendent Boettcher at the District.

- C. **Protocol for Evaluation of Changes to HRI Properties** – Tabled for a future meeting. There was a brief discussion of notifying building owners when their property is first added to the HRI. The Commission will check some other ordinances on-line for possible models. This will be an agenda item at a future meeting. Creating Primary Record sheets on properties being considered for and added to the HRI using the State's Word template is a valuable place-holder which organizes the information. Chair Drewes appointed Vice-Chair Girdley to work with him on creating additional Primary Record Sheets.
- D. **Agenda Items for the May , 2005 Meeting** – Neutra Relocation Report, Essay Contest and Ice Cream Social, the properties behind a chain link fence on Cherry Avenue (perhaps, 574 Cherry?), The Community Picnic at Civic Center in August, and Protocol for Evaluation of Changes to HRI Properties will be on the May Agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Blake volunteered to take over former Commissioner Carpenter's role administering the rotation of Council representatives. Agreed to by all.

STAFF REPORT

1. Historical Commission Budget versus Actuals: \$400. had been requested in individual checks for the Essay Contest Winners; renewal of the California Preservation Foundation membership was submitted at the \$200. level. (Allows up to five commissioners to attend Certified Local Government approved trainings at a discount.) Total: \$600.
2. HRI Access Template Orientation for Commissioners Girdley and Blake will be scheduled in the future.
3. Reminder: The May 23, 2005 meeting precedes the Memorial Day Holiday (May 30, '05).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.