



HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Special Meeting

7:00 p.m., Monday, June 7, 2004

Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers, City Hall
One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Paul Foerster, Chair; Justin Drewes, Vice Chair; Commissioners - Valorie Cook Carpenter, Fran Durekas, John Hamblin, Ken Girdley, and Lee Schink.

MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the May 24, 2004 Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the audience may bring to the attention of the commission any item that is not on the agenda. Speakers are given up to three (3) minutes. State law prohibits the Commission from acting on items that do not appear on the agenda.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. 368 University Avenue Garage—Steve Aced, designer/contractor, presented the drawings and plans for a new garage to replace an existing garage at 368 University. The front height of the new sloped roof garage will be approximately 15' 6" tall (and the height from the rear will be nearly 18"). There is a 12' height limit for accessory structures. After some discussion, Commissioner Hamblin moved approval of the structure and Historical Commission support for a height variance as presented by Aced on June 7, 2004. Commissioner Durekas seconded the motion. The current garage is old and may be structurally unsound. The new design is much more in keeping with the style of the home. The motion was approved (7-0).
2. 208 Pasa Robles—John B. Sines, Attorney and representative for the Estate, spoke to the Historical Commission. After a long discussion, Commissioner Carpenter moved that the Commission not proceed with rating or evaluating the Tudor home at 208 Pasa Robles. Motion seconded by Commissioner Schink. The Commission voted for not rating or ranking 208 Pasa Robles, with one abstention (6-1 abstention). Vice-Chair Drewes was thanked for the oral history work and fact-gathering he did in the neighborhood with neighbors and others. A reason for not rating the home is that the street view of 208 Pasa Robles does not present the distinctive Tudor architectural features. Additionally, there is a rated Tudor home nearly across the street: 67 Pasa Robles. (Incorrectly numbered in the

Historic Resources Inventory (HRI); 67 is probably 71 Pasa Robles.). Chair Foerster shared that in the HRI there are currently 7 Tudor-style properties. Another six are mentioned in the introduction to the HRI. Most of the not rated Tudor houses are still in existence. The high score within the seven already rated is 69 and the lowest scoring property rates 42. (96 Los Altos Avenue was rated in the mid-'70's range in 2003- 2004 period and needs to be considered in the list of rated Tudor-style homes.). The representative for the estate pointed out that the owners did not have living heirs. The value of the estate will be distributed to the Humane Society, Rotocare, El Camino Hospital, and Salvation Army; 95% of the sale will go to charity. Vice-Chair Drewes was commended again for his efforts to gather the history of the occupants.

Commission Discussion and Reports

- A. Museum Research Support Update and Historical Commission Access to the Collection
Chair Foerster reported to the Commission on his meeting with the President of the Museum's board of directors. He distributed a process outline that showed the process for research inquiries that come into the museum. After a discussion, Commissioner Carpenter moved that the Historical Commission follow the museum's normal process for research assistance for three months. Motion included that the Historical Commission will evaluate whether or not they can work within this framework at the September 27, 2004 meeting. The museum will make every effort to give first priority to Commission requests. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hamblin. The Commission voted on the motion and it passed (7-0).
- B. Chairman's Report – Chair Foerster gave a brief overview of the Commission's responsibilities and obligations in identifying Heritage Trees and buildings that are either "Landmark Eligible," (85 points and above); or Historically Significant or Important (50 to 84 points) or Contributing (49 to 1 point) on the Kalman scale in the Historic Resources Inventory (HRI). There was also a brief update on the Realtor presentation on the City of Los Altos Historic Preservation program at the Silicon Valley Association of Realtors meeting. The distribution of letters to the Land-mark Designated homeowners: regarding heritage tree nominations they might request from the Commission and the City was also reported.

HISTORY MUSEUM REPORT/STAFF REPORT

None (Special Meeting).

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

OTHER MATTERS/NEW BUSINESS

Future Agenda Items: Orientation for new Commissioners; assignment of a representative from the Historical Commission to attend the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission to help explain and support the Neutra Relocation proposal and formation of a Joint Sub-Committee (Commissioner Carpenter was appointed to attend the Wednesday, June 16th meeting.). The Access 2000 orientation, hands-on training, identification of a location, computers, time and date for a group work party are all future agenda items.

Next Meetings: **7 PM MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2004**, Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers, City Hall and Monday, July 26, 2004.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner (inaudible); seconded by (also inaudible).

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