

HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Meeting Report

May 6, 2009

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioners Janke, Colombe, Cohen, Jackson, Peak, Thacker

ABSENT: None

VACANCIES: One

STAFF: Environmental Principal Planner Akoni Danielsen, Historic Preservation Senior Planner John Davidson, Historic Preservation Planner Lori Moniz, Strong Neighborhood Initiative Planner Patrice Shaffer

1. DEFERRALS

None

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

None

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

CONSERVATION AREA

- a. **CA09-001: CONSERVATION AREA DESIGNATION** request to designate as a Conservation Area the area generally bounded on the north by Interstate 280, on the east by the rear property lines of the commercial properties on the west side of South First Street, on the west by the Guadalupe River, and on the south by portions of Willow Street and the rear property lines of properties on the north side of Willow Street. (Various Owners/City of San Jose, Applicant). CEQA: Exempt. Council Districts: 3 & 7. SNI: Washington. *Project Manager, Patrice Shaffer*

REVIEWED THE SURVEY AND RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE SUBJECT AREA AS THE GUADALUPE/WASHINGTON CONSERVATION AREA, EXCLUDING ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBERS 264-36-122 (32 UNION STREET), 264-36-104 (21 SUTTER STREET), AND 264-36-069 (24 SUTTER STREET), TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL.

Access the video, agenda, and related reports for this meeting by visiting the City's website at:
<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/planning/hearings/>

HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATIONS/HISTORICAL PROPERTY CONTRACTS

- b. **HL09-181:** Historical Landmark Nomination to designate the “Tommie Smith House” on a 0.19-acre site as a landmark of special historic, architectural, cultural, aesthetic or engineering interest, or value of a historic nature, located on the west side of N. Eleventh Street, approximately 300 feet north of E. Santa Clara Street (55 N. Eleventh Street). Brian C. Boguess, Property Owner/City of San Jose, Applicant. Council District 3. SNI: 13th Street. CEQA: Not a Project. *Project Manager, Lori Moniz*

RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE PROPOSED LANDMARK DESIGNATION OF THE TOMMIE SMITH HOUSE AT 55 N. ELEVENTH STREET AS HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 181 AT THE CITY COUNCIL HEARING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 19, 2009 AT 1:30 PM.

4. REFERRALS FROM CITY COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, OR OTHER AGENCIES

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

None.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

None.

5. GOOD AND WELFARE

- a. Report from Secretary, Planning Commission, and City Council
- (1) At the May 12, 2009 City Council meeting at 1:30 p.m., the City Council will present a proclamation declaring May as “Historic Preservation Month” in the City of San José.
 - (2) On behalf of the City of San José, the Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement (“PBCE”) is seeking qualified consultants to complete historic context statements and/or comprehensive historic and architectural evaluations of properties within study areas designated by PBCE. The survey work is intended to result in the identification of historic properties potentially eligible for listing on the City of San José Historic Resources Inventory, the California State Register of Historical Resources and/or the National Register of Historic Places, individually and/or as part of a Historic District or City Conservation Area. The purpose of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process is to establish a list of qualified consultants who can perform this historic resources survey work over time, as funds are available. The deadline for submitting Statements of Qualifications is Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 4 p.m. The RFQ may be downloaded at: <http://www.bidsync.com/DPX?ac=view&auc=167755>.
 - (3) Update to Commission request on citizen inquiry regarding the Palomar Ballroom.

Per permit condition 2.b from the approved Site Development Permit (H04-050) for the project: Commemoration of the Palomar Ballroom. The applicant shall develop a commemoration plan for the Palomar

Ballroom. The commemoration plan should include a durable, publicly accessible interactive display at street level at or near the location of the Palomar Ballroom on Notre Dame Street.

Permit Adjustment AD08-637 was filed on 5/14/08 to address the outstanding condition. Comments from staff were that the historic commemorative elements need to be designed by a qualified historic consultant. As of 5/6/09, no revised plans or updated commemoration proposals have been received since the original submittal, which staff deemed inadequate. Staff has repeated the request that Clyde Appleby be contacted as soon as possible and has requested status updates from the applicant.

The Historic Landmarks Commission requested that staff, at the next HLC meeting, report back on enforcement options.

- (4) Update to Commission request on citizen inquiry regarding development on the corner of Willow Street and Lincoln Avenue.

Planned Development Rezoning (PDC09-016) from the CP Commercial Zoning District to the CP(PD) Commercial Zoning District to allow 41,457 square feet of mixed-use (office over retail) with an attached parking structure on a 2.08 gross acre site was filed on April 24, 2009 by Paja Investments. A community meeting will be required with the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association. The applicant will be required to submit an updated historic report and standards analysis. The public can view the progress of the rezoning request by going to sjpermits.org using reference file number PDC09-016.

- (5) Report on stakeholder meetings regarding revising the historic preservation ordinance and procedures. The Chair and Vice-chair have been invited to these meetings. Would the commission like to appoint HLC liaison(s) to attend?

The next meeting will be in late June or early July. The Historic Landmarks Commission requested that staff, at the next HLC meeting, report back regarding the possibility of noticing the next meeting in conformance with the requirements of the Brown Act so that all Commissioners would be able to attend and discuss the issues.

b. Commissioners' report from Committees:

- (1) Design Review Subcommittee (Janke, Colombe and Cohen, Peak alternate)
Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month as necessary
No Report (April 15, 2009 meeting cancelled)
- (2) History San José Collections Committee (Jackson)
Meets the 2nd Thursday of every 3rd month at 12 noon
History San José has lost funding and one staff position. Currently, there is no mechanism in place to regulate what is donated to the collections.
- (3) Japantown Survey Committee (Inactive)
No Report

(4) GP Update Task Force Progress Report (Colombe and Thacker)

Commissioner Thacker reported that he is no longer able to participate. Commissioner Colombe reported that the Goals and Policies portion of the General Plan Update will be discussed by the Task Force in late summer, so it is important for the HLC to provide input prior to then. Commissioner Colombe requested that staff, at the next HLC meeting, add a discussion item on this topic as well as the selection of one or two additional liaisons to the GP Update Task Force and to include the information distributed in previous packets regarding this topic in the next HLC meeting packet.

(5) Historic Preservation Month Subcommittee (Janke and Jackson)

Peter Hamilton, on behalf of Vice Mayor Judy Chirco, invited the Historic Landmarks Commissioners to attend the City Council meeting on May 12, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. where the City Council will present a proclamation declaring May as “Historic Preservation Month” in the City of San José.

c. Review of 3/4/09 HLC Meeting Minutes (The April 1, 2009 HLC Meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum)

Minutes accepted.

d. Status of Circulation of Environmental Review Documents

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/planning/eir/>

No Report

e. 2008 - 2009 Fiscal Year Study Session Dates and Topics

(1) November 5, 2008 – Distinctive Neighborhood Program

(2) February 6, 2009 – HLC Retreat

(3) March 4, 2009 – Mid-Century Modernism (Part I)

(4) May 6, 2009 – Mid-Century Modernism (Part II)

6. OPEN FORUM

a. Summary of communications received by the Historic Landmarks Commission

(1) HLC Correspondence – Notice of Hearing on Substantial Amendments to the Consolidated Plan – Annual Action Plan 2008-2009

(2) HLC Correspondence from the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions

b. Members of the public are invited to speak on any item that does not appear on today's Agenda and that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. The Commission cannot engage in any substantive discussion or take any formal action in response to the public comment. The Commission can only ask questions or respond to statements to the extent necessary to determine whether to (1) refer the matter to staff for follow-up; (2) request staff to report back on a matter at a subsequent meeting; or (2)

direct staff to place the item on a future agenda. Each member of the public may fill out a speaker's card and has up to two (2) minutes to address the Commission.

The Commissioners were invited to attend the 4th Annual Fabulous Hats Party and Sale on Sunday, June 14, 2009 from 12:30 to 4:00 PM at 1650 The Alameda, Julia Morgan's last remaining building in San Jose, built by the Pierce family in 1908.

The Commissioners were invited to attend a PACSJ fundraiser on Monday, June 22, between 5 - 10 PM, at Mosaic Restaurant, located in the beautifully restored Hotel Montgomery at 211 South First Street.

The Commissioners were invited to attend a book signing of Signposts Revisited by author Pat Loomis on Friday, May 15, 2009 from 10 am-1 pm at History Park, 1650 Senter Road. This new publication tells the stories of how our streets were named, providing insights into our street names and their relationship to early Santa Clara County pioneers. The book is a combined project of PAC-SJ, California Pioneers of Santa Clara Valley, History San Jose, and the Argonauts Historical Society.

ADJOURNMENT