

Heritage Preservation Board
Regular Meeting
March 21, 2005

Miscellaneous Business

Call to Order

Chair Jim Adams called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Chair Jim Adams, Boardmembers Grayson Marshall, Nancy Curley, Kathy Kearley-Green, Marilyn River, Sallyanne Wilson, Heather Steil (arrived just after Call to Order), Planner Kristin Teiche, and Recording Secretary Nathalie Bamatter.

Absent: Board Member Helen Heitkamp.

Staff Report – Kristin Teiche

Planner Teiche filled in the Board on some research she had done regarding the Downtown trees. She discovered that the Board's recollection that this issue had been previously addressed was correct. Review of the downtown trees and other streetscape was a directive of the Downtown Specific Plan to make "gateway" improvements to both ends of Magnolia Avenue and improve the overall streetscape. These improvements included bus stops, crosswalks, brick work and trees. A series of improvements were adopted pending funding which apparently was never received.

Special Business Item

Viewing of video "Living in Larkspur 1985" written and produced by the Heritage Preservation Board (circa 1985). Video traces the City's origins and provides a comparison of the past and present up to 1985.

After viewing the video, Boardmember Wilson suggested that it be shown at the Lark Theater during the Food and Flower Festival.

Boardmember Curley noted the color degeneration of the VHS video and suggested that a better copy be found and put on DVD. Chair Adams volunteered to create a DVD copy.

Regular Business Items:

1. Re-Evaluation of Larkspur's Inventory of Historic Resources. Nothing new to report.

2. Possible Expansion of Downtown Historic District
(ON HOLD pending completion of inventory update)
3. Items for Board Review and/or Comment:
 - Meeting with Thomas McNally of the ReStore Committee – ReStore member Thomas McNally discussed his disappointment regarding the lack of ReStore Loan applications. The Board gave him a brief history of the ReStore Loan applications that have been received and discussed some recent improvements to downtown business that could have taken advantage of a ReStore loan but chose not to. Mr. McNally mentioned that a meeting was scheduled with City Manager Bonander for March 31 to discuss the ReStore loan process.

Boardmember Kearly Green, also a ReStore member, commented that the fact that the Board meets during the day makes it very difficult for her to attend.

- Street Trees in Historic Downtown – see attached arborist report. Boardmember River said she was impressed that each tree in the downtown district received a thorough evaluation. Boardmember Marshall noted that on the list of recommended trees that Carob trees were not listed which was surprising as most of the downtown trees are Carob trees. Planner Teiche clarified that the list of recommended trees were additional choices should the City chose not to plant Carob trees. Chair Adams stressed that a policy should be in place regarding replacement of the trees *prior* to sidewalk repair and any trees being removed. Planner Teiche was instructed to draft a memo to the Public Works Director recommending that a policy and planting plan be in place prior to any improvements.
 - Mills Act Yearly Update of Repair/Maintenance schedule for 234 Hawthorne Avenue. The Board reviewed the schedule and Motion/Second Marshall/River to accept the schedule as presented (Wilson/Curley abstaining)
 - Office of Historic Preservation 2005 Governor's Historic Preservation Awards. The Board did not have any recommendations for this award.
 - Staff report from Hamid Shamsapour regarding necessary repair and replacement of bridges in Larkspur, including the historic Alexander Bridge (staff reports mailed previously for Board review). The Board expressed their frustration that this process is starting from scratch yet again with the Director of Public Works apparently not considering the Board's previous recommendations. Staff will keep Board posted on future progress.
4. Update on CLASP – Meeting with the Council is scheduled for March 30.
 5. Announcements and Attachments – Boardmember Curley discussed her efforts to have several photos framed. Of the 8 photos to be framed she said that Mayor Lundstrom received confirmation that Fidelity would frame

two photos, the Larkspur Volunteer Fire Fighters would frame one (the one depicting the Firemen's Picnic), and Boardmember Curley would also pick up the cost to frame one photo. Boardmember Curley said she would approach a few other interested parties to see if they would be interested in framing some photos. She also donated a photo she received which depicted the view of Larkspur as taken from Corte Madera.

6. Approval of minutes. Chair Adams, seconded by Boardmember River to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2005 meeting of the Heritage Preservation Board as presented. Boardmembers unanimously approved this motion
7. Next Meeting: 4/18/2005

Adjournment

Boardmembers River, seconded by Boardmember Wilson to adjourn the March 21, 2005 meeting of the Heritage Preservation Board at 8:15pm. Boardmembers unanimously approved this motion

Respectfully submitted,

Nathalie Bamatter
Recording Secretary