

Heritage Preservation Board
Regular Meeting
July 16, 2007

Miscellaneous Business

A. Call to Order

Boardmember Marilyn River called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

Present: Board Members Sallyanne Wilson, Kathleen Kearley-Green (arrived just after roll call), Helen Heitkamp, Jim Adams, Planner Kristin Teiche, Recording Secretary Nathalie Bamatter and Consultant Dan Peterson.

Absent: Chair Grayson Marshall and Nancy Curley

Staff Report – Kristin Teiche:

Planner Teiche said that the “Little Red Ridinghood” home was on the market. In addition, 607 Magnolia/146 Locust was currently in escrow. She was uncertain of the fate of 105 King as a potential Bed & Breakfast due to FAR constraints and parking requirements.

Planner Teiche mentioned that Public Works presented a downtown plan at the last City Council meeting. As Boardmember Wilson had been present at the meeting Planner Teiche asked her to relay her thoughts. Boardmember said it was nice to see action on this project. After some discussion it appears that the tree choices have been agreed upon. She was surprised at the astronomical cost of a proposed soil mix that would help roots not uplift the sidewalk. Currently only a location in San Jose has the license to carry this soil. She said the merchants were focused on cost issues. The mayor’s focus was on his preference for the current trees. Public Works Director Hamid Shamsapour stated the difficulty in “sexing” the trees properly and problems with leaf drop from deciduous trees. Boardmember Wilson thought that the final consensus was for Brisbane Box trees that are similar to the current carob trees. She said that the Council directed the consultant to come back to the Council with a plan on how to pay for all the downtown improvements. Planner Teiche asked if they discussed changing the sidewalk and/or street width. Boardmember Wilson said that no action was taken.

Regular Business Items:

1. Amendments of Larkspur’s Inventory of Historic Resources: The Board will meet with Mr. Dan Peterson, Consulting Historic Architect, for training and assistance in completing the Inventory Evaluation Forms provided in the new database of historic resources. Board will discuss assignments and a timeframe for complete of forms.

Mr. Peterson said the most important thing to focus on was imputing all the Evaluation comment sections. He said a lot of the needed information was

available in the Larkspur Past and Present book. After the comments have been provided Mr. Peterson could review and revise them as necessary. Boardmember Wilson thought that Dick Cunningham would be a good resource for providing construction dates as he has been researching properties for the update of "Larkspur Past & Present".

Planner Teiche asked when the Board thought they would be able to next review this item. The Board thought the next regular meeting in September. Boardmember Wilson asked that an instruction list be provided to assist the boardmembers to focus on the necessary data. The descriptions should focus on the public view of the house.

Boardmember Wilson thought it would a good idea of have some examples of homes on the current inventory that have resold recently to show that they have maintained their property value to help address the concern from the public that a historic home designation would impact property values. Boardmember Adams said it would be important to include data on citywide sales from the 1990s to present and how many days the home was on the market.

2. Items for Board Review and/or Comment. --Framing of remaining large black and white pictures (previously hanging in Council Chambers). Planner Teiche said that City Manager Jean Bonander offered to frame three additional black and white photos. Of the five remaining photos, three were chosen to be framed (Aerial of Bay, downtown view and one of the downtown lumberyard). It was suggested that the other photos be offered to the Park and Recreation department for display in their meeting room.
3. Announcements and Attachments:
--Centennial Float, 4th of July parade. Boardmember Wilson said that the float was a big success. The float was made to resemble the façade of City Hall. She said the whole process from float design, construction and costumes was a community event.

Boardmember Wilson said that she and Boardmember Nancy Curley were given the opportunity to comment on behalf on the Heritage Preservation Board on the Draft EIR for the New Central Health Service Center that is proposed for California State Prison San Quentin. A mural that initially was to be preserved unfortunately will now be demolished but proper mitigation measures have been proposed. (The response letter and referenced chapter 4.4 from the Draft EIR have been provided for Heritage Preservation Board files)

Boardmember Wilson thought it would be a good idea to provide awards to Larkspur homeowners who have historic homes for outstanding stewardship in maintaining and restoring historic homes. The Board thought that was a good idea.

4. Approval of Minutes: May 5, May 10 and May 21, 2007. Boardmember Wilson moved, seconded by Boardmember Adams to approve the minutes as amended. All in favor (River abstained).

Next Meeting: Regular Heritage Meeting - August 20, 2007

Adjournment

Boardmember Adams moved, seconded by Boardmember Heitkamp, to adjourn the July 16, 2007 meeting of the Heritage Preservation Board at 7:55 p.m. Board Members unanimously approved this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathalie Bamatter
Recording Secretary