



HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

7:00 p.m. Monday, July 25, 2011
Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers
1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER

Chair WELSH called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair WELSH, Commissioners AHMADJIAN-BAER, BAKER, BISHOP, CHAPMAN and MARFATIA.
Absent: Commissioner LONEY
Staff: Staff Liaison DAHL

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes from the May 23, 2011 regular Historical Commission meeting.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BAKER SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN, to approve Meeting Minutes.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Historic Resources Inventory Update

Staff Liaison DAHL presented the project and answered questions from the Commission.

- a. 1448 Fowler Court

The owner did not speak. The Commission expressed general support for designating property as a Historic Resource, noting the age and physical integrity.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BAKER, to designate the property at 1448 Fowler Court as a Historic Resource, per Section 12.44.040 of the Municipal Code, and add it to the Los Altos Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. 166 Hawthorne Avenue

The property owner's representative spoke in opposition to the designation, noting that the property had been moved from its original site, that the physical integrity was lost due the move and other structural modifications, and that there was no evidence of historic significance.

The Commission discussed the property, noting that the effort to move structure illustrated value of structure, that it appeared to still be located on the same property and that many of the character defining features remained in good condition.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BISHOP, to designate the property at 166 Hawthorne Avenue as a Historic Resource, per Section 12.44.040 of the Municipal Code, and add it to the Los Altos Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. 604 Milverton Road

The owner did not speak. The Commission expressed general support for designating property as a Historic Resource, noting the excellent physical integrity and setting of the structure.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AHMADJIAN-BAER, to designate the property at 604 Milverton Road as a Historic Resource, per Section 12.44.040 of the Municipal Code, and add it to the Los Altos Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. 366 Second Street

e. 388 Second Street

The owner did not speak. The Commission noted that 366 Second Street did not appear to have the physical integrity necessary to list on the Historic Resources Inventory. With regard to 388 Second Street, the Commission noted that the structure appears to be in excellent condition with original windows and doors and that it provides historic context to Downtown Los Altos.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARFATIA, to not designate the property at 366 Second Street as a Historic Resource due to lack of physical integrity.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION BY CHAIR WELSH SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BISHOP, to designate the property at 388 Second Street as a Historic Resource, per Section 12.44.040 of the Municipal Code, and add it to the Los Altos Historic Resources Inventory.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. 11-H-05 – 1671 Kensington Avenue

Staff Liaison DAHL presented the request to remove the property from the Historic Resources Inventory and answered questions from the Commission.

The trustee for the property spoke in support of removing the property from the Historic Resources Inventory, noting that it should have never been listed in the first place since it doesn't have any historical significance, it doesn't meet the criteria for physical integrity and has had major modifications to repair termite damage. He also noted that the historic designation is impacting the salability of the property.

The Commission discussed the request, raising concerns about delisting the property without documented evidence to support the claim that it did not have physical integrity or historic significance. The Commission also noted that the City's Historic Consultant is currently in the process of updating all historic property evaluations, including this property.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BAKER SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAPMAN, to continue the request to remove 1671 Kensington Avenue from the Los Altos Historic Resources Inventory to allow the owners to provide evidence per the Historic Preservation Ordinance to support the claim that the structure lacks physical integrity and historic significance.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair WELSH adjourned the meeting at 8:51 PM

Zachary Dahl, AICP
Staff Liaison to the Historical Commission