



HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, August 25, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.
Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers
1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER

Chair AHMADJIAN-BAER called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

Present: Chair AHMADJIAN-BAER, Vice-Chair CHAPMAN and Commissioners BAKER, BISHOP, MARFATIA, MABE and WELSH
Absent: No absents
Staff: Staff Liaison DAHL and Assistant Planner GALLEGOS

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Commission Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner BISHOP, seconded by Commissioner Vice-Chair CHAPMAN, to approve the April 28, 2014 meeting minutes.
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. 14-H-04 – R. Mowat Associates – 452 University Avenue

Consideration of a Historic Alteration Permit for a new detached garage, rear yard improvements and alterations on the rear elevation of a historic landmark property.

Senior Planner DAHL presented the staff report and recommended approval of the design details for the previously approved project.

Resident Rony Van Kyle spoke and expressed support for the project.

The Commissioners discussed the project and expressed their support for the project. The Commission expressed concern about the ornateness of the wrought railing, noting that it should be simplified.

MOTION by Vice-Chair CHAPMAN, seconded by Commissioner WELSH, to recommend approval of Historic Alteration Permit Application 14-H-04 to the Design Review Commission subject to the listed findings and conditions, with the following additional recommendations:

- The demolition of the garage shall be permitted; and

- After the project has completed the design review process, an architectural detail of the wrought iron railing shall be brought back to the Historic Commission for review.

MOTION by Commissioner MARFATIA, seconded by Commissioner WELSH, to amend the original motion to include the following:

- Recommends retaining the interior wall of the foyer per project historian recommendation; however, the final design shall be up to the discretion of the applicant and owner.

THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE ORIGINAL MOTION CARRIED A 5/1 VOTE, WITH BISHOP OPPOSED.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Historic Plaque Program

Staff Liaison DAHL reported that Phase One of the Historic Plaque Program was initiated with plaques installed on landmark historic structures. The Commission discussed the process for implementing the Historic Plaque Program and installation of the plaques on the Historic Resource properties.

MOTION by Commissioner BAKER, seconded by Commissioner BISHOP, to recommend the City Council allocate funds for the ten plaques per year until plaques have been installed on all Historic Resource properties.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Margaret Thompson Essay Contest

Commissioner WELSH provided an update on the status of the Margaret Thompson Essay Contest.

5. History Museum Communication

Staff Liaison DAHL provided follow-up on joint meeting with the Los Altos History Museum and inquired if the Commission wished to provide direction on a meeting date for the joint meeting. The Commission discussed scheduling the joint meeting with the Los Altos History Museum.

6. Monthly Staff Report

Staff Liaison DAHL introduced Assistant Planner GALLEGOS as the next staff liaison, and discussed the possibility of a Study Session from 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm at the next meeting, September 22, 2014, for Historical Review.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair AHMADJIAN-BAER adjourned the meeting at 8:28 PM

Sean K. Gallegos, Assistant Planner
Staff Liaison to the Historical Commission