



HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, October 26, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers
1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER

Chair CHAPMAN called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

Present: Chair CHAPMAN, Vice-Chair MABE, Commissioners AHMADJIAN-BAER, TRAPNELL and HORN

Absent: Commissioners WELSH and BISHOP

Staff: Staff Liaison GALLEGOS and Engineer Service Manager, LAMM

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Commission Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner AHMADJIAN-BAER, seconded by Vice-Chair MABE, to approve the August 24, 2015 meeting minutes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. City of Los Altos – Halsey House – 482 University Avenue

Engineering Services Manager LAMM presented the agenda report for the Feasibility Study for the Adaptive Reuse or Demolition of the Halsey House, a Historic Landmark and answered Commissioner questions. Staff noted the pros and cons for the two design schemes and advised the study was not a historic resource evaluation.

One member of the public, Val Carpenter Chair, Friends of Historic Redwood Grove, spoke in favor of Design Concept 'A'. Ms. Carpenter noted that the report confirms that it is in fact feasible to renovate and adaptively reuse the Halsey House for community use. Ms. Carpenter requested that the Historical Commission recommend the implementation of the seven measures recommended on p. 13 of the Feasibility Study as soon as possible, pursue Design Scheme 'A' and continue to partner with the Friends of Historic Redwood Grove.

The Commission expressed support for Design Concept 'A', which would maintain the priority of preserving the Historic Landmark. The Commission noted that Design Concept 'A' is approximately a million dollars (\$833,015.37) less than building an equivalent new facility; the design concept provides an opportunity for community involvement in raising funds to rehabilitate the Historic Landmark; and the retention of the Historic Landmark would permit the City to pursue grants and/or matching funds to offset the cost of rehabilitating the building.

MOTION by Commissioner TRAPNELL, seconded by Commissioner AHMADJIAN-BAER, to recommend the City Council pursue Design Concept 'A' in order to adaptively reuse the Halsey House, a Historical Landmark and to implement the seven measures recommended on p. 13 of the Feasibility Study as soon as possible.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Margaret Thompson Essay Contest

No Report

4. Friends of the Historic Redwood Grove

No Report

5. Monthly staff report

Staff Liaison GALLEGOS provided yearly calendar of events to the Commission and provided an update on the Eichler Historic neighborhood.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair CHAPMAN adjourned the meeting at 8:01 PM.

Sean K. Gallegos
Staff Liaison