



DATE: February 27, 2017

AGENDA ITEM # 2

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Historical Commission
FROM: Sean K. Gallegos, Staff Liaison
SUBJECT: Commission Accomplishments

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept the 2016-2017 Historical Commission Accomplishments

BACKGROUND

At the May 4, 2016 joint meeting between the City Council and the Historical Commission, the Commission established the following goals and work plans for 2016-2017:

1. Administer the Margaret Thompson Essay Contest.
2. Implement the Historic Plaque Program.
3. Administer the Historic Preservation Award.
4. Maintain the City's Certified Local Government Status by reviewing and approving the annual CLG report that is submitted to the State Office of Historic Preservation, and seek historic education and training.
5. Foster Partnership with the Los Altos History Museum by holding an annual joint meeting with the Los Altos History Museum Board of Directors and pursuing opportunities to partner with the Los Altos History Museum on historic education and outreach.
6. Update the Historic Commission Website with information on structures participating in the Historic Plaque program.
7. Support the evaluation of the Halsey house at the Historic Redwood Grove and provide a recommendation to the City Council.
8. Continue to maintain and improve the Historical Commission's community outreach and awareness by collaborating with the Los Altos History Museum and administering the annual Margaret Thompson Essay Contest.

9. Continue to foster a partnership with the Los Altos History Museum in order to best utilize the Los Altos History Museum's resources for projects such as evaluating historic properties for their association with significant individuals and events.

DISCUSSION

Below is a list of the Commission's 2016-2017 accomplishments. This list includes all of the Commission's accomplishments between April 2016 and March 2017.

1. The Commission has held seven regularly scheduled meetings since April 2016.
2. The Commission administered the 31st annual Margaret Thompson Essay Contest. The essay topic was, "Traditions and Stories that Celebrate Your Ancestry." Essays were submitted from students from six schools, including home schools, in the Los Altos area, with a trophy being awarded to the school with the most award winners. Award checks and certificates were distributed by the Mayor to the students at the ice-cream social sponsored by the Historical Commission and the Los Altos History Museum on May 10, 2016.
3. The Commission implemented the Historic Plaque Program.
4. The Commission administered and the City Council awarded the Historical Preservation Award to Valorie Cook Carpenter at the May 10, 2016 meeting.
5. The Commission reviewed and approved the 2016-2017 Certified Local Government Program Annual Report on January 27, 2017.
6. The Commission reviewed and accepted a Commission Calendar that identifies reoccurring events, dates and deadlines at the January 27, 2017 meeting.
7. The Commission reviewed and recommended approval for a first story addition and exterior modifications to a Historic Resource property at 960 Berry Avenue at the May 23, 2016 meeting.
8. The Commission reviewed and recommended the City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a Mills Act agreement with the property owner for a Historic Landmark property at 220 University Avenue at the June 27, 2016 meeting.
9. The Commission reviewed and recommended the City Council designate an existing Historic Resource property as a Historic Landmark and authorize the City Manager to enter into a Mills Act agreement with the property owner for a Historic Landmark property at 1365 Grant Road at the September 26, 2016 meeting.
10. The Commission reviewed and discussed the process and membership of the Historical Commission at the October 24, 2016 meeting.
11. The Commission reviewed and recommended that the City Council designate a barn as a Historic Landmark at 210 Alta Vista Avenue at the October 24, 2016 meeting.