



HISTORICAL COMMISSION ACTION MINUTES

7:00 p.m., Monday, October 25, 2004
Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers, City Hall
One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: P. Foerster, Chair; J. Drewes, Vice Chair; Commissioners – V. C. [redacted] enter, F. Durekas, J. Hamblin, K. Girdley, and L. Schink.

MINUTES

Minutes of the September 27, 2004 Meeting: Commissioner Girdley had made corrections on a disk and had provided copies of the corrections on paper.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the audience may bring to the attention of the commission any item that is not on [redacted] agenda. Speakers are given up to three (3) minutes. State law prohibits the Commission from acting on items that do not appear on the agenda.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - FOERSTER

- a. Essay Contest—The theme selected by the Museum's Education Committee is: "What I Like Best about Los Altos" There was a Commission consensus that the topic should be "My favorite Historic Place or Event in Los Altos is ____." The contest's tradition is making the essay, both a social studies, and a language arts opportunity. A joint sub-committee with Commissioners Schink and Durekas has been formed with Margaret Thompson of the Education Committee and other volunteers.
- b. Chair Foerster introduced Lois Adams, Membership Chair for the Museum. Ms. Adams thanked the commissioners who have joined the museum. She talked about membership benefits including the members' price for the annual Crab Feed and Auction fundraiser.
- c. Alain Pinel briefing had been held on Monday, Oct. 18. Information on the Historic Resources Inventory, incentives for preservation were presented by Chair Foerster.
- d. Walking Tour Brochure will need to be reprinted this year. This is an opportunity to update it. Planning Commissioner Randall Hull will be asked if he'd be willing to donate graphic design services. (If Hull is too busy, the Commission brainstormed a possible alternate volunteer to approach.)

- e. Certified Local Government (CLG) Annual Report—Both Commissioners Girdley and Schink would be willing to review sections of the CLG Annual Report. This tends to help review for the annual Joint Study Session with Council even though the reporting years are a bit different. (Council Joint Study Session is usually a December to December review of the Commission's mission, charges, goals, work plans, and proposed goals and work plans for the coming year; CLG uses an Oct. 1, through Sept. 30, fiscal year.)
- f. Annual Meeting with the City Council: Agenda Items
- g. Training Commissioners to work on Commission Research Projects

COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND REPORTS

- a. HRI Work Project Dates: 10/18/'04 and 10/20/'04, 7:00 pm, Recreation Department—Chair Foerster and Commissioner Hamblin attended the first orientation and Commissioners Schink and Carpenter attended the second. Staff was asked to identify if there's a work-station available at City Hall or the Recreation Department where commissioners could get hours to make corrections and enter new information on the HRI.
- b. Neutra Relocation Committee – Chair Foerster complimented Vice-Chair Drewes on the work of the Neutra sub-committee. The Historical Commission may want to save space for a mention of the Neutra cottage if it is moved onto public land. Vice-Chair Drewes commented that Mark Sandoval (architect and former Historical Commissioner) had recruited a Stanford student to carry out additional research at the County Recorder's office on deeds from 1938 and '39. One of the original owners, Jacqueline Johnson had deeded one of the cottages over to Clayton Stafford a writer and poet(correct?). There are books and photographs related to Stafford in the Special Collections of the Stanford Libraries. There was some discussion of going back to Council for approval to begin raising money—perhaps, the Council meetings of November 9 or 23rd are possibilities. Vice-Chair Drewes was encouraged to work with the Recreation Director, Dave Brees, on evaluating a meeting date to go back to Council. Commissioner Girdley has recently retired from a long career as a contractor. He is interested in attending the Neutra Relocation sub-committee meetings.
- c. The Historical Commission's need to access the Cities' historical collection –Drewes
- d. Review Home Evaluations – All
- e. Historical Commission and its involvement in recording history in the GREATER Los Altos Area--Hamblin
- f. Design and Restoration Guidelines/Info. pamphlet – Girdley
- g. Heritage Trees--Main and State Streets - Girdley

HISTORY MUSEUM REPORT/STAFF REPORT

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Copies of the American Association for State and Local History's Statement of and the section of the American Association of Museum's Code of Ethics dealing with collections were distributed to the Commission.

WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

OTHER MATTERS/NEW BUSINESS

Future Agenda Items: Coloring Book or Sheet idea;

Next Meeting: **7 PM MONDAY, DECEMBER 13 or 20, 2004**, Los Altos Community Meeting Chambers, City Hall. Joint Study Session with Council: Tuesday, January 11, at 5 pm or 6 pm, Redwood Room, City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

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