

**CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

Large Conference Room, City Hall

3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California 92262

BOARD MEMBERS:	Present This Meeting:	Present FY Year-to-Date:	FY: 2009/2010 Excused Absences:
John Gilmer, Chair	X	8	0
Barbara Marshall, Vice Chair	X	8	0
Thomas DeLeeuw	X	7	1
Sheila Grattan	X	8	0
Roxann Ploss	X	7	0
Brian Strahl	X	8	0
Sidney Williams	X	7	1

Staff Representatives:

Craig A. Ewing, AICP,
Director of Planning Services
Staff Liaison

Glenn Mlaker, Assistant Planner

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Gilmer called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Present: Chair Gilmer, Vice Chair B. Marshall, T. DeLeeuw, S. Grattan, B. Strahl, R. Ploss and S. Williams.
3. **POSTING OF AGENDA:** This Agenda was available for public access at the City Hall exterior bulletin board (west side of Council Chamber), City Clerk's office and Planning Services' counter on or before 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 2, 2010.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Richard "Kip" Serafin, Co-Chair Wexler Weekend / Palm Springs Preservation Foundation. Reported on the Wexler Weekend event and presented copies of the Wexler Weekend brochure to the Board. He also indicated that next year's event will address the Alexander homes.
5. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

M/S/C (Williams / Grattan, 7-0) To approve minutes of the January 12, 2010 meeting.
6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** (None)

DRAFT

7. CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL REQUEST(S):

- 7.A Case 3.1018 Cheeky's Restaurant / Las Palmas Business Historic District – Cheeky's Restaurant for the construction of a new 775 square foot outdoor pavilion for limited bar and food service located within the main restaurant garden area at 622 N. Palm Canyon Drive, Zone C-1, Section 10. (GM)

Assistant Planner Mlaker summarized the staff report. Project representative, Architect Reuel Young described the project's context, objectives, design elements and details. Board members expressed its concern with the west-facing orientation of the building's main opening and the location of the bathrooms; it was noted that original Pepper Tree Hotel building was a modern design.

M/S/C (Grattan / Williams, 7-0) To approve, as submitted.

8. OTHER BUSINESS:

- 8.A HSPB 72 – Orchid Tree Inn – Staff report on site status for Orchid Tree Inn located at 261 South Belardo Road.

Director Ewing summarized the agenda memo. The Board discussed its previously-approved extension.

- 8.B Discussion of Designation of Site vs. Structure

Director Ewing summarized how the Board may discuss and differentiate between a structure and other features, including the entire site, when considering a historic designation. The Board discussed the value of "setting" in its evaluation of a resource as potentially historic, and the need to be clear in its conclusions regarding a recommendation to the Council.

- 8.C Letter from Palm Springs Preservation Foundation – City Hall

Chair Gilmer summarized a debate currently happening in the community regarding the structure-versus-setting issue surrounding the designation of the Palm Springs City Hall. The Board discussed the value of the setting to the historic value of the City Hall.

M/S/C (De Leeuw / Ploss, 7-0) To initiate and investigate an amendment to the historic designation of City Hall to include the site.

M/S/C (De Leeuw / Ploss, 7-0) To place a stay of demolition on the City Hall site.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS:

DRAFT

9.A Las Palmas Business Historic District Committee – Update

Board members De Leeuw and Ploss summarized recent actions to develop a data-base on the ‘contributing’ structures within the District.

9.B Public Outreach Committee – Update

Chair Gilmer reported on a meeting of the Board’s sub-committee (Gilmer and De Leeuw) with representatives of the Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce and the Palm Springs Economic Development Committee. Future discussions will be held to develop a position on one or more ordinance amendments.

9. STAFF & OTHER REPORTS:

Director Ewing reported on the status of the Cork-n-Bottle building, including repair of the clock and other improvements. He reported on the Mills Act experiences of the Cities of Los Angeles, Pasadena and Ventura. He also indicated that the wording on the pending plaques for Santa Fe Federal, the Palm Springs International Airport and Casablanca Adobe have been finalized, but that the Coachella Valley Savings Bank plaque has been held indefinitely due to unacceptable conditions from Chase Bank.

10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Board member Williams reported on the upcoming Modernism Week, from Feb. 12 through 21, 2010, summarizing the calendar of events and activities.

Chair Gilmer noted that Ms. Williams has been named curator of architecture and design at the Palm Springs Art Museum.

Board member Marshall asked about the status of the Preserve America sign, which has been preliminarily approved for placement on the new entry sign.

Chair Gilmer noted the City Council recently designated the Menrad House and established the first historic residential district at the Royal Hawaiian Estates Condominium.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Gilmer adjourned the meeting to its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 2010, at 8:15 a.m., in the Large Conference Room at City Hall.

Craig A. Ewing, AICP
Director of Planning Services