

HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014 LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER: Chair DeLeeuw called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Chair DeLeeuw, Vice-Chair Johns, Board members Burkett, Hays, Ploss.

ABSENT: Board Member Williamson.

ALSO PRESENT: Director Wheeler, Associate Planner Lyon.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA: No changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ron Marshall delivered site nomination on February 10, 2014 for the Paul Dougherty residence which was designed by architect John Porter Clark in 1942 and associated with artist Paul H. Dougherty, businessman William Edris and US Senator Warren Magnuson who lived there in the 60's.

He said that the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation had submitted a Measure J proposal for a city-wide historic survey. Searchable database is important.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1.A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 10, 2013 MEETING.

Board Member Ploss wants last names; she feels the minutes are not a primary source without both first and last names.

Correction on page 4 to add "Army Hospital campus."

M/S/C Hays/Johns (4-1) Approved minutes as amended.

1.B. CORNELIA WHITE HOUSE UPDATE

Al Smoot provided written and oral presentation.

Board Member Johns asked why only three sides for repair.

Al Smoot replied that the 4th side was still in good shape.

Board Member Johns wants all 4 sides repaired, because only 3 sides will look like a "patch and paint". If there is a homeless problem, then this needs to be looked at.

Board Member Ploss mentioned archives stored there; priceless and fears loss of archive.

Al Smoot also discussed subcommittee meeting at Welwood.

Board Member Ploss asked if loss of patina of age was of concern to any other Board member and agreed by Board Member Burkett.

M/S/C Johns/Burkett 4-0-1 (Ploss opposed) Amend motion to remove and replace the board and batten siding system on all four sides of the building.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2.A. THE TOWN & COUNTRY CENTER AT 174 NORTH PALM CANYON DRIVE, ZONE CBD (HSPB 51)

Board Member Johns asked about Andreas as a two-way street not in the Specific Plan. How did that happen?

Director Wheeler and Associate Planner Lyon gave examples of City Council actions not yet put into the Specific Plan document.

Chair DeLeeuw commented that staff time is money.

Board Member Hays had demolition and Class 1 questions.

Board Member Ploss referred to Attorney Holland's memo.

Motion by Board Member Ploss that the HSPB recommend that the City Council initiate an amendment to the EIR for the Museum Market Plaza Specific Plan reassessing the project without the demo of the Center, to allow re-submittal of a Class 1 recommendation for the Center by the HSPB.

Board Member Johns amended the motion that the environmental assessment be prepared by staff. Motion and second to accept amended motion

Board Member Hays' commented on his work summarizing that demo of the Town & Country would be akin to Sunnylands or the LAX theme building. Downtown does not have a goal of being vehicular friendly but pedestrian friendly.

M/S/C DeLeeuw/Ploss (5-0)

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.A. MAY 2014 PRESERVATION MONTH

Director Wheeler explained the concept of Preservation Month and asked if there was interest.

Board Member Ploss said yes and to use the Center as centerpiece.

Board Member Burkett said to continue our public education such as Board Member John's lecture. Incredible museum with great space and architectural and design building.

Board Member Ploss mentioned walking tours. Robert Imber and Kitty Hays could lecture and do a walking tour.

Board Member Johns thanked the Board for their comments and he suggested then to form a subcommittee. Board Members Burkett and Ploss volunteered.

3.B. 2014 CITYWIDE HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY UPDATE

Director Wheeler announced that any Palm Springs Preservation Foundation board member needs to recuse from discussion.

Board Member Johns recused himself.

4. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Board Member Ploss commented on her Charlie Farrell house research.

6. DIRECTOR REPORT:

Director Wheeler referenced article in Desert Sun this morning.

Associate Planner Lyon noted: The Historic Resource database work is ongoing; the Racquet Club Class 1 item is tabled until March as requested by the owner; and the marker for the Racquet Club Cottages West to be delivered next week.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chair adjourned the Historic Site Preservation Board Meeting at 10.29 a.m. to its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room at City Hall.

M. Margo Wheeler, AICP
Director of Planning Services

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