HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of February 1, 2022

(The subject meeting was conducted via teleconference

pursuant to Assembly Bill 361)

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Chair Hough, Vice Chair Nelson, Members Hansen, Kiser, Miller, Rose, Rosenow

Absent: None

Staff Present: Development Services Director, Flinn Fagg, AICP

Historic Preservation Officer / Principal Planner Ken Lyon, RA

| **2022 Attendance Record for CLG Annual Report** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **Jun** | **Jul** | **Aug** | **Sep** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** |
| Katherine Hough | ☒ | ☒ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jade Nelson | ☒ | ☒ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dan Kiser | ☒ | ☒ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Erik Rosenow | ☒ | ☒ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Janet Hansen | ☒ | ☒ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Scott Miller | ☒ | ☒ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stephen Rose | ☒ | ☒ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**REPORT OF THE POSTING OF AGENDA:** The Agenda was available for public access at the City Hall exterior bulletin board (west side of Council Chamber) and posted on the City’s website as required by established policies and procedures.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:**

Motion by Miller, seconded by Rose, to accept the agenda as presented.

AYES: Hansen, Hough, Kiser, Miller, Nelson, Rose, Rosenow

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jarvis, spoke about the Frank Bogert statue; confirmed it is not part of the historic part of City Hall and hoped the removal of the statue is still moving forward.

Pearl Devers, on behalf of Section 14 Survivors, spoke in support of removal of the Frank Bogert statue from City Hall.

Doug Evans referenced written comments he submitted to the Board; reported there has been no historic evaluation of the Frank Bogert statue; discussed ARG and asked the Board to deny the Certificate of Appropriateness or continue the item again, until there is a complete historic site assessment, including the statue and the artist who created it.

Alvin Taylor, on behalf of Section 14 Survivors, supported the removal of the Frank Bogert statue and felt the community should be involved in deciding what to do with it once it is removed.

Jerry's Payne, on behalf of Section 14 Survivors, supported the removal of the Frank Bogert statue; remembered when residents were removed from their homes and felt the community should be involved in deciding what to do with it once it is removed.

Gloria Thompson, on behalf of Section 14 Survivors, supported the removal of the Frank Bogert statue; remembered when residents were removed from their homes and felt the community should be involved in deciding what to do with it once it is removed.

Marjorie Holland, on behalf of Section 14 Survivors, supported the removal of the Frank Bogert statue.

Delia Ruiz, Section 14 Survivor, spoke in support of having the Frank Bogert statue, removed.

Ben Mayfield, Section 14 Survivor, spoke in support of having the Frank Bogert statue, removed.

There were no other public comments.

1. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**1.A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the Historic Site Preservation Board Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2022.

Motion by Rosenow, seconded by Kiser, to approve the minutes of the HSPB meeting of January 4, 2022 as presented.

AYES: Hansen, Hough, Kiser, Miller, Nelson, Rose, Rosenow

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**2. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**3.A. THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF**

**APPROPRIATENESS FOR ALTERATIONS TO THE PALM SPRINGS CITY**

**HALL, A CLASS 1 (LANDMARK) HISTORIC SITE LOCATED AT 3200 EAST**

**TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY, (HSPB #33D / CASE 3.3377). (KL)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Staff Member Lyon presented details of the staff report, the results of an analysis by the consultant, ARG, for a Certificate of Appropriateness and recommendations.

Chair Hough stated the new report makes her feel limited in terms of what the Board can or cannot discuss, limits the review of what may be historic and noted the ARG statement that they did not evaluate the sculpture under any historic criteria although that is what the Board requested at its November meeting. She suggested relocating it to the Village Green where it can be reinterpreted within a historical context.

Board Member Rose agreed with Chair Hough's statements.

Staff Member Lyon commented on focusing on the Certificate of Appropriateness; noted the Board is not tasked with seeking a historical designation for the statue and stated the question is whether removal of the statue impair the historic resource of City Hall.

Board Member Kiser felt the issue will be interpreted by the public in a much broader sense and believed it should either be a City Council decision or put to a vote on the ballot.

Vice Chair Nelson concurred with fellow Board Members; felt the ARG report is one-dimensional and believed the statue is a feature of the entire site.

Staff Member Lyon reported the statue was added to the site and it was never identified in the historic designation resolution and therefore, the statue does not contribute to the historic significance of the building.

Vice Chair Nelson expressed concerns the report was done after the historic designation and felt disappointed there was little information about the statue, in the report and felt the issue has been politicized.

Board Member Miller believed this is a simple decision by the Board and agreed with staff the removal of the Frank Bogert statue does not impair the historic significance of City Hall. He hoped the City will ensure appropriate location of the statue, at another site.

Board Member Hansen agreed with Board Member Miller and agreed with the findings of the ARG and the staff report.

Discussion followed regarding the relocation or disposition of the statue.

Board Member Kiser noted that with or without the statue, City Hall will remain City Hall.

Vice Chair Nelson spoke in support of Chair Hough's comments; believed it is acceptable to relocate the statue to the Village Green as Frank Bogert was involved in the creation of the Village Green but noted the need to be careful in that the Village Green is also City-owned property.

Chair Hough stressed it was donated to the City of Palm Springs and belongs on City property; felt the story needs to be told and added that it could be reinterpreted.

Board Member Rose asked whether the Board could forward the matter to City Council for their consideration and determination.

Staff Member Lyon reiterated that the question before the Board is not relocation or removal, but whether removal of the statue impair the historic resource of City Hall.

Discussion followed regarding the possibility of deferring the decision until the new location for the statute is identified.

Board Member Miller disagreed; noted this is a simple issue, reiterated the Board's task at this time and suggested encouraging the City to find a suitable location for the statue that is publicly assessable.

Staff Member Lyon reported receiving a number of written public comments about this item which were forwarded to Board Members.

Discussion followed regarding forwarding the entire issue to City Council,

Motion by Miller, seconded by Hansen, to grant the Certificate of Appropriateness for the removal of the Frank Bogert statue and to recommend to City Council, relocation to an appropriate site that is publicly accessible and reinterpret the piece.

AYES: Hansen, Kiser, Miller, Rosenow

NOES: Hough, Rose

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Nelson

**4. NEW BUSINESS:**

**4.B. REVIEW FOR POTENTIAL RE-DESIGNATION OF A CLASS 4 SITE TO A**

**CLASS 1 OR 2 HISTORIC RESOURCE INITIATED BY AN APPLICATION BY**

**DANIEL BATY, OWNER, REQUESTING APPROVAL TO DEMOLISH THE**

**DWELLING LOCATED AT SMOKE TREE RANCH, ROCK 12/5R (APN 510-**

**175-005) CASE 3.4300 MAA. (KL).**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive the staff report and application materials, direct

staff to schedule site visits and continue the matter to a date certain of March 1,

2022.

Staff Member Lyon presented details of the staff report and recommended continuing this item to March 1, 2022 to allow staff to schedule site visits.

Motion by Kiser, seconded by Miller, to receive the staff report and application materials, direct staff to schedule site visits and continue the matter to a date certain of March 1, 2022.

AYES: Hansen, Hough, Kiser, Miller, Nelson, Rose, Rosenow

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**5. DISCUSSIONS:**

**5.A. 2022 PRESERVATION MATTERS SYMPOSIUM** (Hough, Kiser, Nelson)

Chair Hough reported the Subcommittee has been meeting regularly to develop materials for the 2022 Preservation Matters Symposium; noted it has been scheduled for two afternoons at the Palm Springs Convention Center on April 23-24, 2022; discussed production efforts and spoke about upcoming Subcommittee meetings and site visits.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Board Member Hansen thanked the members of the Subcommittee for their work.

Vice Chair Nelson asked about plans for boards and committees to meet in person.

Board Member Miller announced he will be joining the Planning Commission and noted he has enjoyed working with the Historic Site Preservation Board.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Staff Member Lyon provided an update on the work being done at the Bank of America and addressed the Cork 'n Bottle building.

Discussion followed regarding landscaping in connection to the Bank of America buildings and the location of an historic marker.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Historic Site Preservation Board adjourned at 7:04 PM to its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 5:30 PM, in the Large Conference Room at City Hall.