

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

DRAFT

Tuesday, October 13, 2009
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	4	0
Barbara Marshall, Vice Chair	X	4	0
Thomas DeLeeuw	X	4	0
Sheila Grattan	X	4	0
Roxann Ploss	X	3	0
Brian Strahl	X	4	0
Sidney Williams	X	4	0

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: T. DeLeeuw, S. Grattan, R. Ploss, B. Strahl, S. Williams, Vice Chair B. Marshall and Chair Gilmer.
 3. POSTING OF AGENDA: The 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, October 6, 2009.
 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sheryl Hamlin, Palm Springs, spoke in favor of the proposed historic designation for the Orchid Tree Inn and provided information on the bungalows.

Marshall Roath, Palm Springs, spoke in favor of the proposed historic designation of the Orchid Tree Inn and provided information in reference to an architecture survey in the Historic Tennis Club Neighborhood.

Robert Imber, spoke in favor of the historic designation for the Royal Hawaiian Estates (Agenda Item 7B) and requested approval of the sign program (Item 8A) with the exception of the wall building sign.
 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: September 8, 2009 Meeting - A total of two corrections on page 1 and 3, and a request to modify the "draft" watermark.

M/S/C (Ploss / Marshall, 7-0) To approve, the minutes of September 8, 2009, as amended.

6. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR:

Chair Gilmer reported the P.S. Modern Committee dedicated their new information kiosk at the Visitor's Center and was very well attended. Chair Gilmer provided details on the "Preservation without Limits" conference in Los Angeles held on November 2nd – 6th and the "2009 National Preservation Conference" starts today in Nashville, Tennessee. Chair Gilmer provided details on the introduction of measure to extend the tax credit for restoration of historic buildings.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 7.A HSPB 67 – Application by Mark Hilbert, owner, for Class 1 Historic Site Designation of the "Casino House", 982 North Avenida Palmas, Zone R-1-B, Section 11.

Glenn Mlaker, Assistant Planner, presented the staff report. The public hearing was opened, no one spoke and the hearing was closed. The Board discussed issues surrounding the original owner of the house, the sequence of construction, and the occupancy by Joseph Schenck.

M/S/C (Williams / Ploss, 7-0) to continue the matter, including additional research on the following topics:

1. Original owner
2. Sequence of construction on the site
3. Occupancy by Joseph Schenck

Ms. Grattan indicated that she would work with surviving family members to obtain additional information.

- 7.B HSPB 73 – Application by Royal Hawaiian Estates Condominiums, for a Class 1 Historic Site Designation, 1774 South Palm Canyon Drive, Zone R-3, Section 26.

Glenn Mlaker, Assistant Planner, presented the staff report. The public hearing was opened:

- Bill Lewallen, applicant, expressed support for the project as a district.
 - Ron Marshall, Palm Springs Preservation Foundation, expressed support for the project as a district.
 - David Carden expressed support for the project as a district.
 - Gary Johns expressed support for the project as a district.
 - William Kopelk expressed support for the project as a district.
 - Tony Morris read a letter from Patrick McGrew which expressed support for the project as a district.
 - Edward Zavora expressed support for the project as a district.
- The public hearing was closed.

The Board discussed the importance of the Tiki architecture to the neighborhood, the value of a larger district than the Royal Hawaiian site, and the benefit of establishing a historic district as opposed to a historic site.

M/S/C (Williams / Strahl, 7-0) to continue the matter and direct staff to re-notice for consideration as a historic district.

8. CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL REQUEST:

- 8.A Case SI 09-115 HSPB 53 - Chase Bank for approval of a sign program at HSBP 53 Coachella Valley Savings, 499 South Palm Canyon Drive, Zone CBD, Section 15.

Glenn Mlaker, Assistant Planner, presented the staff report. Louis Worbey, sign program manager for Chase Bank (applicant) described the application.

M/S/C (Grattan / Ploss, 7-0) to approve the sign application, subject to the following conditions:

1. The wall sign logo above the main entry doors (Palm Canyon frontage) is continued for redesign, with the following options to be explored by the applicant:
 - a. An open sign element, lit from below;
 - b. Reduced overall size / scale; and
 - c. Integrate the logo's design with the building's modern architecture

- 8.B Case 3.2710 HSPB 59 – Casa Cody for the construction of a 4.5 foot tall block wall along the north property line, 141 South Cahuilla Road, Zone R3, Section 15. (GM)

Glenn Mlaker, Assistant Planner, presented the staff report. Frank Tysen (owner and applicant) described the application.

M/S/C (Williams / Grattan, 7-0) to approve the block wall, as submitted.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

- 9.A HSPB 74 - Menrad Residence, 1070 East Apache Road, Introduction for the potential Class 1 Historic Site Designation and formation of a sub-committee.

Glenn Mlaker, Assistant Planner, summarized the staff memo. Chair Gilmer appointed Grattan, Marshall and Strahl to a sub-committee for site review.

- 9.B HD – 1; Las Palmas Business Historic District; Report of Committee. Members DeLeeuw and Ploss reported on their investigation of the district. Additional buildings may be eligible for designation and more investigation is needed. Chair Gilmer appointed Williams to join the committee.

- 9.C Outreach Options and Opportunities – Discussion and Direction. The Board discussed options for community outreach. Additional discussion and direction will follow.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS:

11. STAFF & OTHER REPORTS:

- Staff reported that the City has been notified of its approval as a Preserve America Community. More information will follow.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Vice Chair Marshall asked for status on brochure (Historic Districts), certain correspondence regarding the application by Royal Hawaiian, and the Cork 'n' Bottle. She also praised the new kiosk in the Visitors Center.
- Member Williams asked for status on the plaques and noted the upcoming CPF Symposium on November 9, 2009.
- Member Strahl asked for status on the plaque for the Coachella Savings Bank (now, Chase Bank) and the Visitors Center lighting.
- Member Ploss asked for future discussion of the Historic Resources Ordinances (No. 1140 and 1320), the use of replica elements, initiating an application for the National Registry, the routine maintenance and repair of designated buildings, the rules regarding exterior changes and the Old Las Palmas area.

13. ADJOURNMENT: M/S/C (DeLeeuw / Grattan, 7-0) The Historic Site Preservation Board adjourned at: 11:10 a.m. to its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 8:15 a.m. in the Large Conference Room at City Hall

Craig A. Ewing, AICP
Director of Planning Services