



City of Saratoga

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2007 8:30 a.m.

Place: Planning Conference Room, 13777 Fruitvale Avenue

Type: Regular Meeting – Please meet in the parking lot in front of the Warner Hutton House at 8:30 A.M. and Staff will provide transportation to the site visit under New Business and return to the Planning Conference Room by 9:20 A.M.

1. Routine Organization

A. Roll Call

PRESENT: Commissioners Gomersall, Loudon, McCarty, Marra, Chair Koepernik, and Vice Chair Kellond

GUESTS: Ms. Rosemarie Dippel, Ms. Sasi Murthy, Mr. Sergio Ramirez

STAFF: Senior Planner Chris Riordan

B. Approval of minutes from July 10, 2007 meeting – Approved

C. Posting of Agenda – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, the agenda was posted on August 9, 2007

D. Oral & Written Communication - Any member of the public may address the Commission about any matter not on the agenda for this meeting for up to three minutes. *Commissioners may not comment on the matter but may choose to place the topic on a future agenda. - None*

E. Oral Communications – Historic Preservation Commission direction to Staff – *Instruction to staff regarding actions on current Oral Communications. -None*

2. Old Business

A. Discuss National Registry & Saratoga Landmark Plaques – *Item discussed. Mr. Riordan stated that the Saratoga Landmark Plaques had arrived and he proceeded to show them to the Board. The Board discussed the process of presenting the plaques to the recipients. Chair Koepernik stated that the presentation of the plaques to the recipients should not be done all at the same time so as to maintain momentum. Commissioner Marra stated that the city staff should be responsible for mounting the plaques. Vice Chair Kellond stated that there should be a photomontage of all the properties with a statement of why they were received. Commissioner Loudon stated that he wanted to make sure that the financial donation from the Lions club be acknowledged. Chair Koepernik stated that the city council should be involved in the presentation of the plaques and the local paper should be contacted so that the citizens of Saratoga are shown the goodness of what the City is*

doing. Commissioner Gomersall thought stated that the public outreach was important because it was her opinion that most Saratoga citizens were unaware of the existence of the Board. Chair Koepernik stated that he would “spearhead” the efforts. Vice Chair Kellond stated that Commissioner Loudon should represent the Board in front of the Board as an acknowledgement of the time and effort he had put into the plaques. Chair Koepernik stated that he would write up a procedure of how the Board was going to move forward with the plaques.

- B. Discuss Heritage Orchard Signage – *Item discussed. Chair Koepernik stated that he is still in the process of getting bids for the orchard signage.*
- C. Discuss Historic Incentives – *Item discussed. Commissioner McCarty stated that she would be interested in some kind of financial incentives. Commissioner Marra stated that he would be interested in finding out what kind of incentives the City would support. Chair Koepernik responded that the Board should formulate some ideas for historical incentives for presentation to the City. Commissioner Marra stated that the City should consider an incentive that would lower application fees. Chair Koepernik responded with a suggestion that all members of the Board should consider some ideas for historical incentives that will encourage positive public response and we will discuss them at the September meeting. Commissioner Marra stated that the public should be made aware of the incentives and the process for applying. Commissioner Gomersall stated that there should be an article in the paper. Commissioner Loudon stated that there should also be an article about the plaques. Chair Koepernik stated again that the Board should come up with some creative ideas for historical incentives.*
- D. Discuss Mustard Walk – *Not discussed*
- E. Discuss Sign for McWilliams House – *Not discussed*
- F. Discuss Orchard Pathway – *Item discussed. Commissioner McCarty stated that a friend had hurt her ankle while walking on the orchard pathway. Commissioner Marra stated that he would like the opportunity for the HPC to walk the location of the proposed path. Chair Koepernik stated that there has been clearing of vegetation along the creek, he is aware of an idea for construction of a wooden bridge to span the creek, is most concerned about access, and requested that staff research the status of the pathway for the next meeting.*

3. New Business

- A. **8:35 A.M. Site Visit** – 13601 Saratoga Avenue – Review proposed replacement buildings for Saint Andrew’s Parish and School and determine consistency with Heritage Lane. *Site visit completed with representative from Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Church & School present. Motion to approve by Commissioner Loudon and seconded by Commissioner Gomersall and carried by a 6-0 vote.*

- B. **8:50 A.M. Site Visit** – 18524 Montpere Way – Determination of the historical significance of the residence that the owner would like to remodel. *Site visit completed with applicant (Ms. Sasi Murhthy) present. Item discussed. Commissioner McCarty questioned the accuracy of the site coverage that is stated on the project plans. Ms. Murhthy stated she was aware of the inaccuracy and that the site plan is to be revised. Commissioner Gomersall stated that she did not believe that the building was historic and Commissioner's Louden and McCarty agreed. Motion to approve by Commissioner Marra and stated that the building was not on the historic inventory nor historically significant with respect to its design or individuals associated with the property; motion seconded by Commissioner McCarty and carried by a 6-0 vote.*
- C. **9:05 A.M. Site Visit** - 15211 Hume Drive – Determine if the existing residence is of historical significance. Applicant is proposing demolition. *Site visit completed with applicant (Mr. Sergio Ramirez) present. Item discussed. Mr. Ramirez stated that he was ready to answer any questions about the project. Mr. Ramirez stated that the house will be demolished and the building materials will be recycled, the house will be green structure and with some of the power to be supplied by photovoltaic panels. Commissioner Kellond stated that the proposed new structure would most likely be more historically significant than the existing structure to be demolished and Commissioner Marra agreed. Mr. Ramirez stated that the adjacent neighbors were given an opportunity to review the plans and they were supportive of the design. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Kellond following recommendation #1 from the project memorandum, motion seconded by Commissioner Marra and carried by a 6-0 vote.*

4. Pending Items

- A. Historic Resources Inventory
- B. McWilliams House Renovation
- C. National Register Applications
- D. Adopt a Tree Program for the Heritage Orchard
- E. Update Heritage Ordinance
- F. Review Oak Street as a Heritage Lane
- G. Review additional content for *Heritage Resources* webpage
- H. Historic Preservation Data Base
- I. Review list of properties with structures 50 years and over in age

5. Adjournment

Adjourn to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 11, 2007, Planning Conference Room, 13777 Fruitvale Avenue.