

2015 ADVISORY BODY ANNUAL REPORT

Advisory Body Name: Contra Costa County Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee (HLAC)

Meeting Time/Location: Meets on a quarterly basis, the second Thursday of the month at 30 Muir Road, Martinez, at 2:30 PM

Chair: Stephen Lawton

Staff Person: Christine Louie
Department of Conservation and Development (DCD)
Community Development Division (CDD)
(925) 674-7787

Reporting Period: January 2015 – December 2015

I. Activities

- Mr. Lawton attended the San Francisco History Expo at the Old Mint, an outdoor walking tour of Glen Canyon-the site of the first dynamite factory in the U.S., and a panel discussion by the Urban Land Institute on Lennar Urban's San Francisco Shipyard historic reuse project at Hunter's Point and the Candlestick Park site.
- Mr. Lawton conducted an illustrated lecture on the history of the Hercules Powder Company to the Pinole Historical Society, and organized and led a tour of San Francisco's Eastern Waterfront in connection with the Fall Meeting of the Urban Land Institute.
- Mr. Lawton attended the scoping session for the Environmental Impact Report for the Martinez Jail demolition project.
- Ms. Jensen contributed to the Delta Conservancy Newsletter providing a Delta History related article to the newsletter.
- Ms. Jensen participated in the year-long "Delta Narratives Workshop" funded by the Delta Protection Commission to communicate the historic and cultural importance of the Delta region in California's - and America's - history, through multi-format educational exhibits within and around the Delta.
- Mr. Wright worked on the "Old Yellow House" restoration and preservation project in Orinda, including an illustrated presentation and house tours.

II. Accomplishments

- Mr. Lawton briefed the Board of Directors of the Contra Costa County Historical Society on the mission and work of the HLAC and resource challenges to the Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) update process.

- Contra Costa Day Proclamation at the Board of Supervisors for the Centennial Celebration of the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition.
- Provided guidance and input to CDD for the proposed demolition of 1726 El Nido in Diablo, a contributory building in the Diablo Historic District which is listed in the HRI.
- Discussion of the Martinez Jail demolition project.
- Update of the HLAC web site.

III. Attendance/Representation

The five-member HLAC is comprised of four CCCHS members and the Deputy Director of the Department of Conservation and Development, Community Development Division. Four scheduled meetings were cancelled due to a lack of discussion items and two special meetings were held for a training webinar and to discuss the demolition of a historic resource.

Committee Member	2/12/15	3/12/15, Special Meeting	5/14/15	8/13/15	11/12/15	12/17/15, Special Meeting
James Wright, Seat 1	Cancelled	Present	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	Absent
Stephen Lawton, Seat 2	Cancelled	Absent, Called-In	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	Present
Webb Johnson, Seat 3	Cancelled	Absent	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	Absent
Carol Jensen, Seat 4	Cancelled	Present	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	Present
Aruna Bhat, Deputy Director, DCD	Cancelled	Present	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled	Present

IV. Training/Certification

- HLAC members attended a California Preservation Foundation Webinar on Completing and Updating Historic Resource Surveys.
- Mr. Lawton attended a seminar by the California Preservation Foundation on "Historic District Designation" focused on Forest City's restoration and reuse project.

V. Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for Next Year

In 2016, the HLAC intends to secure sufficient funding to support a modest level of professional effort to update the HRI on a 5-year cycle. The work plan will also include the following:

- Review commitment of CCCHS and Board of Supervisors to the HRI update effort.
- Seek private-sector support for update effort.
- Create a 5-year update work plan for the HRI.