

2016 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: Dominique Vogelpohl
Department of Conservation and Development (DCD)
Community Development Division (CDD)
(925) 674-7814

Reporting Period: January 2016 – December 2016

I. Activities

- CDD staff prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the proposed demolition of 1726 El Nido, Diablo. CDD staff approved a demolition permit on July 21, 2016 per the determination provided by Michael Baker International's Historical Resource Evaluation, and positive recommendation from the HLAC.
- HLAC committee chair Stephen Lawton updated the Contra Costa County Historical Society (CCCHS) on the activities and work plan for the HLAC on February 10, and May 3, 2016.
- The HLAC committee members participated in multiple informational lectures and workshops on historic preservation, and specific historic sites within the County.

II. Accomplishments

- The Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) has been updated to include the last three buildings/properties to receive approval from the Board of Supervisors to be included in the HRI. These buildings/structures are: The Bethel Island Fire Station at 3045 Ranch Lane in Bethel Island, the Eugene A. Bridgford House at 4090 Gateway Road in Bethel Island, and the former Diablo Country Club Clubhouse at 1926 Alameda Diablo in Diablo.
- The HLAC nominated three separate properties (66 Stonecastle Court, Alamo; 67 Stonecastle Court, Alamo; 2067 Alameda Diablo, Diablo) to the Board of Supervisors to be included in the HRI.
- The HLAC web site has been updated to include the updated HRI, a revised application and submittal requirements for nomination of a potentially historic resource and/or request for a Mills Act agreement, and a revised informational handout for the Mills Act.

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. The August 11, 2016 scheduled meeting was cancelled due to a lack of discussion items, and the November 10, 2016 scheduled meeting was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. A special

meeting was held on November 30, 2016 to discuss the items that were intended to be heard at the November 10 meeting.

James Wright attended the first two meetings of the year. Melissa Jacobson was appointed by the Board of Supervisors on August 16, 2016 to take the Seat 1 position. Webb Johnson attended the first meeting of the year. Raymond O'Brien was appointed by the Board of Supervisors on April 26, 2016 to take the Seat 3 position.

Committee Member	2/11/16	5/12/16	8/11/16	11/10/16	11/30/16, Special Meeting
James Wright, Seat 1	Present	Present	-	-	-
*Melissa Jacobson, Seat 1	-	-	Cancelled	Cancelled	Present
Stephen Lawton, Seat 2	Present	Present	Cancelled	Cancelled	Present
Webb Johnson, Seat 3	Present	-	-	-	-
*Raymond O'Brien, Seat 3	-	Present	Cancelled	Cancelled	Present
Carol Jensen, Seat 4	Present	Present	Cancelled	Cancelled	Absent
Aruna Bhat, Deputy Director, DCD	Present	Present	Cancelled	Cancelled	Present

*New committee member

IV. Training/Certification

- HLAC committee member Melissa Jacobson received training certification for the Members of a County Advisory Body by watching the Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance video and the Ethics Orientation for County officials video. The certification was filed by the Clerk of the Board on December 5, 2016.
- HLAC committee chair Stephen Lawton verified that all HLAC members are in compliance with the Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance, and the Ethics Orientation for County officials, certification requirements.

V. Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for Next Year

- Prepare standards/criteria to determine the historic significance of buildings within the Historic District of Diablo.
- Obtain commitment and funding for a Historic Preservation Element for the upcoming General Plan update.
- Obtain private sector support for the HRI updating efforts and proposed General Plan Element.
- Develop a new Ordinance to enforce the Historic Preservation Element that emphasizes on Façade retention/preservation.
- Implement greater protection measures for historic monument, plaque indicating John Marsh's murder.