



ADVISORY BODY ANNUAL REPORT

Advisory Body Name: Historical Landmarks Advisory Committee (HLAC)
Advisory Body Meeting Time/Location: Quarterly - 2nd Thurs of the month located at 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553
Chair (during the reporting period): Carol Jensen
Staff Person (during the reporting period): Stanley Muraoka and Dominique Vogelpohl
Reporting Period: January 2020 - December 2020

I. Activities

(estimated response length: 1/2 page)

Describe the activities for the past year including areas of study, work, special events, collaborations, etc.

HLAC has continued efforts in updating the Historic Resources Inventory (HRI).

HLAC continues to draft a potential County Historic Preservation Ordinance to be included with the in-progress County Zoning Ordinance update.

HLAC received active attendance and participation by members of the public at both the special and regularly scheduled meetings, and received useful feedback for the Historic Preservation Ordinance draft.

HLAC continues to stay involved in the in-progress County Envision 2040 General Plan update, and will review the draft new General Plan when available to verify HLAC recommendations have been integrated into the historical and cultural resources portions.

HLAC vice chair, Melissa Jacobson, allocated a significant amount of time in correspondence with the Contra Costa County Historical Society in an ongoing effort to receive assistance in updating the HRI.

HLAC chair, Carol Jensen, paid for a Survey Monkey subscription to create a survey (that took approximately 40 hours to draft and vet) to give the public a platform to provide information on potential historical resources within the County. The survey was offered to the Contra Costa County Historical Society to be added to their website, but they declined.

HLAC chair, Carol Jensen, attended the Delta Heritage Forum as representative of the HLAC. The Forum featured three panel sessions on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area and other National Heritage Areas, virtual museums and pandemic resources for museums and historical societies, and indigenous voices of the Delta, a workshop on Delta and Carquinez Strait road trips, and three lightning talks.

II. Accomplishments

(estimated response length: 1/2 page)

Describe the accomplishments for the past year, particularly in reference to your work plan and objectives.

HLAC's recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to reduce the application fees to nominate potential resources for designation to the County HRI was accepted and is present in the current Conservation and Development Fee Schedule.

Each HLAC member received a copy of the Diablo Historic Preservation Committee's latest book, Diablo's Treasures.

HLAC chair, Carol Jensen, was appointed to the Delta National Heritage Area Management Plan Advisory Committee.

HLAC contacted the Boards of Realty urging them to include in their local disclosure statements references to local city historic ordinances. This was a result of the Diablo Historic Preservation Committee bringing their concerns to the HLAC that new homeowners are unknowingly purchasing contributor properties to the Diablo Historic District with the intent of demolishing the original residence and replacing with new construction. The Boards of Realty said they will forward this to their attorneys for further consideration.

III. Attendance/Representation

(estimated response length: 1/4 page)

Describe your membership in terms of seat vacancies, diversity, level of participation, and frequency of achieving a quorum at meetings.

The five-member HLAC is comprised of four Contra Costa County Historical Society (CCCHS) members and the Deputy Director of the Department of Conservation and Development, Community Development Division.

Meetings held in 2020: February 13, May 14 (cancelled), July 16 (special meeting), August 13, November 12

Melissa Jacobson, Seat 1: Present, - , Present, Present, Present
Melinda McCrary, Seat 2: Present, - , Present, Present, Present
Raymond O'Brien, Seat 3: Present, - , Present, Present, Present
Carol Jensen, Seat 4: Present, - , Present, Present, Present
Aruna Bhat, Deputy Director: Absent, - , Present, Present, Present

IV. Training/Certification

(estimated response length: 1/4 page)

Describe any training that was provided or conducted, and any certifications received, either as a requirement or done on an elective basis by members. NOTE: Please forward copies of any training certifications to the Clerk of the Board.

All HLAC members are up to date with their Training Certification for Member of County Advisory Body and Public Service Ethics Education Certification.

V. Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for Next Year

(estimated response length: 1/2 page)

Describe the advisory body's workplan, including specific objectives to be achieved in the upcoming year.

Continue participating in the in-progress County Envision 2040 General Plan update with respect to the already provided recommendations for policies/goals/implementation measures, and also view the new General Plan draft in its entirety to verify historic preservation is woven throughout the overall document.

Request direction from the Board of Supervisors with respect to including a County Historic Preservation Ordinance with the in-progress County Zoning Ordinance update.

Continue to appeal to the Contra Costa County Historical Society and other County Historical Societies for assistance in creating an inventory list of potential historical resources within unincorporated Contra Costa County.

Continue to appeal to the Contra Costa County Historical Society and CDD staff for assistance in updating the County Historic Resources Inventory to include each resources' correct address, Assessor Parcel Number, GPS coordinates, whether it is located within unincorporated County or a City jurisdiction, photographs of each resource in its current condition, and correct any and all spelling/grammatical errors.

Continued participation in the Delta National Heritage Area Management Plan Advisory Committee as Contra Costa County holds the largest amount of shoreline in the Delta National Heritage area. HLAC will also be integrating reference of the Delta National Heritage area into Envision 2040 General Plan update and the draft Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Continue education and training in historical and cultural resources related topics as it pertains to public policy and development/restoration of historical resources etc. The HLAC wishes to explore utilizing the seminars and workshops provided by such organizations like the Conference of California Historical Societies and SPUR.