

**Historic Resources Advisory Committee  
Redwood City Hall  
1017 Middlefield Road  
Redwood City**

## **MINUTES**

February 12, 2009  
Redwood City hall Council Chambers  
7:00 p.m.

## **APPROVED**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** M. Bursak, Vice Chair Gernard, R. Holt, N. Jabba, J. Pellizzer and Chair Rolandelli

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** D. Eva

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Planning Secretary Mateo, Principal Planner Jany

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Kaia Eakin; Paul, Jill, and Jane Ekas; Lynn Kujala; John Donohoe

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

No approval of September 11, 2008 minutes for lack of quorum.

**M/S** (Holt/Pellizzer) to approve the minutes of November 13, 2008 as corrected.

**Motion Passed 6-0**

No approval of November 25, 2008 special minutes for lack of quorum.

**M/S** (Pellizzer/Bursak) to approve the minutes of December 11, 2008 as corrected.

**Motion Passed 5-0 (Holt Abstain)**

**M/S** (Bursak/Pellizzer) to approve the minutes of January 8, 2009 as corrected.

**Motion Passed 5-0 (Holt Abstain)**

**M/S** (Bursak/Jabba) to approve the minutes of January 16, 2009 as corrected.

**Motion Passed 5-0 (Holt Abstain)**

### **2. Certificates of Recognition for Historic restoration Work**

Chairman Rolandelli explained that these certificates of recognition are awarded by the HRAC to property owners whose rehabilitation work on their property exemplifies historic restoration excellence. The Chairman awarded the certificates to the recipients in attendance; those who could not attend will receive their certificate in the mail. The following properties received this special recognition award:

- a. 1827 Brewster Avenue
- b. 702 Warren Street
- c. 175-177 Birch Street
- d. 831-835 Main Street
- e. 647 Hamilton Street
- f. 1633 Hopkins Avenue
- g. 959 Arlington Road
- h. 522 Maple Street

### **3. Review of Historic Background report for Ampex/Stanford campus**

The HRAC reviewed the historic report on the Ampex campus for the Stanford project for “adequacy and completion” (per their CLG requirement on all historic reports and surveys) and found it very thorough however, based on the information it contained, the HRAC disagreed with its findings and conclusions. The issue focused on the significance of the “425 Broadway Building” where some inventions of national proportions took place (such as the first hand held video camera), the building (by John Carl Warnecke) would be California if not National Register eligible (the loss of the building screen and new paint scheme do not compromise the significance of 425 Broadway). The HRAC also concluded that the “Warnecke Fountains” also had kept their sense of place, the argument that the campus fountains had lost their original purpose as water retention basins, or that their role as focus point to a campus that had not been completed per Warnecke’s master plan is not acceptable (large master planned sites and campus are rarely built per their creator’s original vision i.e. Central park, Berkeley, Stanford etc... The HRAC is consequently requesting that the City’s environmental consultant provide a peer review of these specific aspects of the report only, (by a qualified historian). Another motion recommended that the report be amended to include information about the “Ampex Sign”, this freestanding structure was already identified as a historic resource by the HRAC (not a designated landmark but it could be)...

John Donohoe was present at the meeting, heard the above comments and provided input to the HRAC.

### **4. Historic Redwood City “Path of History” update (D. Eva)**

Continued to the March meeting when Mrs. Eva returns.

### **5. Expanded Main Street Historic District update**

The HRAC will confirm the boundaries of the proposed district upon review of the proposed district Map. The HRAC will review the historic report prepared by Circa Consultants on the triangular-shaped property located at 1101 Main Street in order to determine its adequacy and completion. The HRAC will then be able to resume their work leading to a district boundary confirmation by the State Office of Historic Preservation staff.

### **6. National Preservation Month School Tours**

Chairman Rolandelli explained that he had begun the program coordination effort with Patricia McRae of the Redwood City School District who will then coordinate with the school applicable school principals.

### **7. Oral Communications and Matters of Committee Interest**

- Letter from History Museum staff  
The Museum staff expressed concerns about the high cost of installing and removing the banners, the HRAC acknowledged the cost numbers and indicated that their main concern was to insure that the banners would not be blocking a portion of the Old County Courthouse façade for a majority of the time. Mr. Jany added that City and Museum staff were investigating ways to reduce the installation costs by seeking ways to reduce the installation equipment needs.
- Draft Background report related to the proposed Hetch-Hetchy pipeline work  
Chair Rolandelli identified several missing pages in the report; this information will be forwarded to the SFPUC staff.
- Alhambra projecting sign  
The HRAC reviewed plans for a minor projecting sign to be installed over the entrance door of the Main Street façade of the Alhambra Theater building and determined that the

proposal complied to the Secretary of Interior's Standards (SIS) based on the following Criteria:

- The Sign is of its own time and place
- The sign is secondary to the character-defining features of the building and does not cause a visual impact on the historic resource
- The sign does not damage, remove or destroy the original fabric of the building and is removable
- Mills Act properties -- open for public tours?  
Continued
- Sequoia High School Graduation Plaques and c. 1939 woodshop building update  
No update
- Downtown Precise Plan Update Process  
Staff explained that staff is working with historic consultants to upgrade the Historic portion of the Downtown Precise Plan's Environmental work and that a draft document will be submitted to the HRAC for determination of adequacy and completeness and compatibility to the SIS.
- "700 Form" disclosure statement  
Staff explained that the forms were due to the City Clerk's office on April 1, 2009

## 8. Adjournment

**M/S:** (Bursak/Holt) to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion Passed**

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM to reconvene at 7:00 PM on March 12, 2009 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City.

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