

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

## **MINUTES**

May 14, 2009  
Redwood City hall Council Chambers  
7:00 p.m.

## **APPROVED**

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

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** J. Pellizzer

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

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

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

**M/S** (Eva/Bursak) to approve the minutes of April 9, 2009 as corrected.  
**Motion Passed 4-0 (Holt, Jabba abstain)**

**M/S** (Eva/Jabba) to approve the special minutes of April 21, 2009 as submitted.  
**Motion Passed 6-0**

**M/S** (Eva/Jabba) to approve the special minutes of May 4, 2009 as corrected.  
**Motion Passed 5-0 (Holt abstain)**

**M/S** (Bursak/Eva) to approve the minutes of March 12, 2009 as corrected.  
**Motion Passed 6-0**

### **2. 448 St. Francis Street**

Mr. Jany stated that the HRAC has received information regarding this property; the appraisal report indicates the year of construction and an inquiry to tear down the property. The requirement is to review the property.

Robert Carroll, property owner, showed pictures of the property and stated that the house is in poor condition and needs to be made livable.

Chair Rolandelli stated that the issues are if the HRAC feels the property is considered a resource or does it retain integrity to be considered a resource.

Mrs. Jabba stated that this home is an older home on the block and other homes look newer.

Mrs. Eva stated that it reports in the Appraisal Report that the home was built originally in 1924 and the heat was a wood stove, she believes even if this home was able to be

maintained it is not near code and would be costly to repair. The home has no significance architecturally (historical).

Mr. Bursak stated that this home is not worth saving and is too expensive to restore.

Mr. Gernand stated that he believes this home does not appear to meet any criteria in the Ordinance.

Chair Rolandelli mentioned the metal siding, but believes that the home does not reach a level to require a DPR form.

**M/S** (Bursak/Eva) find the property at 448 St. Francis Street can be demolished.

**Motion Passed 6-0**

Mr. Jany stated that when statements are made regarding demolition of potential historic resources, certain findings will need to be adopted for that to occur. He suggests that comments be used that were made earlier with respect to not requiring the DPR form and the lack of integrity, dilapidated condition, that restoration would not be feasible. Those items are needed in order to establish a procedure. He suggested a release form or certificate of "Authorization of Demolition."

**3. Historic Redwood City "Path of History" update (D. Eva)**

- **Downtown walking historic tour map**
- **Historic sign update**
- **Historic Mural process**

Mrs. Eva showed the HRAC and staff samples of the downtown walking historic tour map that was presented to Wells Fargo Bank.

Mr. Jany stated that the manager of Wells Fargo has run the signs through their organization and will support the project financially.

Mrs. Eva stated that the manager wanted to do the planter on the corner of Broadway and Main that would feature signs for four different historic sites (plaques). Bids have already been received on creating the signs, the signs themselves are extremely affordable, but they have not figured out how they are going to be mounted on the corners and the properties. That will be the most costly part of this whole project.

Mr. Jany stated that he is not sure that the transparent maps should be on all sides, there may be an opportunity to put some historic photos on the sides.

Mrs. Eva stated that grant money was requested from the Civic Cultural Commission on May 1<sup>st</sup> in the amount of \$20,000. At the June CCC meeting she will bring samples of the signs to the meeting. She asked what the HRAC thought was better with regards to the white or brushed aluminum sign.

Mr. Bursak stated that the Archives Committee could contribute \$1,000 for the Wells Fargo Kiosk Site or move the money to other signs if not needed.

Mrs. Eva stated that they have not told Wells Fargo how much the mounting post is going to cost for the corner sign. The Archives talked about the clean up of the existing kiosk and putting a "do not post" sign, so that people will stop using it.

Chair Rolandelli stated that in regards to the support structure/pedestals he suggests contacting Redondo Beach and Lahaina, Hawaii.

Mr. Jany stated that the muralist's materials should be paid for.

Mrs. Jabba mentioned giving a presentation or discussion to the downtown business group at one of their upcoming meetings to get them involved and get assistance.

Mr. Gernand referred to the back lit sign and it being plastic, is it susceptible to scratch type vandalism and is there is a protector that can be placed over it.

Mrs. Eva replied that the graphic is printed on the back, so they could not scratch the graphic itself. The signs aren't expensive to replace. The signs have graffiti proof coatings and vandalism will not be a big issue because the signs are replaceable.

Mr. Gernand likes the sign with the white background.

Mrs. Jabba likes the brushed aluminum sign.

Mr. Bursak likes the sign with the white background.

Mrs. Eva likes the sign with the white background.

Commissioner Holt likes the sign with the white background.

Chair Rolandelli likes the sign with the white background.

#### **4. Expanded Main Street Historic District**

Chair Rolandelli sent a letter to Patricia Ambacher (Office of Historic Preservation) with a number of enclosures. He is asking for another visit or teleconference from the State.

Mr. Bursak stated that John Edmonds has a picture of the original Pacific Telephone and Telegraph building – 727 Middlefield Road and he will look for it.

#### **5. National Historic Preservation Month (2009)**

Chair Rolandelli stated that the Historic walking tour on May 3<sup>rd</sup> was cancelled due to the rain. The school tours are all set and there is one vacancy left open for a tour escort.

Mr. Bursak has picked up the 800 bottles of water and will pick up the hot dogs and will purchase the condiments and napkins.

#### **6. Disposition of 1909 Wm J. Dingee plaque**

Mr. Jany has no information and needs specific direction.

Mr. Bursak will look in the newspapers for the article (in archives).

Mr. Gernand stated that what needs to be confirmed in regards to the plaque is not only the date it was given, but what was given.

#### **7. Edgewood Park/Wellesley Tract survey area / neighborhood**

Chair Rolandelli stated that the issue with HRAC members being within the 500 feet of that area needs to be resolved with the City Attorney.

Mr. Jany stated that Mrs. Jabba, Mr. Bursak, Mrs. Eva and Commissioner Holt are conflicted. What needs to be done is that out of the four conflicted Committee members, to get a quorum, straws are drawn and whoever is picked may partake in the discussion.

Chair Rolandelli stated that even though this is just being talked about there is no benefit realized even if the area was designated until it was a Mills Act agreement, especially residential.

Mr. Jany stated that the City Attorney believes that the HRAC member influencing the property on a historic designation may lead to a benefit on the property for real estate purposes, not only because of Mills Act Contracts, but because it affects the property value in some way. Once you consider properties for district designation, all those properties are eligible for a potential benefit.

Mrs. Jabba stated that if there is a non-contributing property the general rule of 500 feet would apply.

Mr. Jany stated that the members not chosen would have to leave the room and will not be able to listen to the discussion.

Mr. Bursak asked what would happen if this was put on as a ballot measure.

Mrs. Eva replied that would not be an appropriate way to do it.

#### **8. Historic Element of the General Plan (attached revisions)**

Mr. Jany asked the HRAC to review the revised document and make comments. The next special meeting is held on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-6:00pm at City Hall.

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

- **Ampex/Stanford project update**

Mr. Jany stated that there is no new information – there is a 20 day review window for the EIR.

Chair Rolandelli stated that the report prepared by Laura Jones is complete, but he questions the conclusion.

Mr. Jany stated that the DPR for the sign came later and the information is correct.

- **Optimist's presentation by Chair Rolandelli**

Chair Rolandelli gave a presentation to the Optimist's Club with the help of Gary Kelly's flip chart of photos.

- **Davis CLG training update**

Mr. Gernand, Mr. Bursak, Mrs. Eva and Mr. Jany attended the training.

Mr. Gernand stated that the training was thorough, in depth and went well. A handout was included in the HRAC packet.

- **San Mateo County History Museum signage update (see attached staff report to Architectural Review Committee)**

Diane Rummel, Marketing Coordinator for the History Museum, is attending the meeting to fulfill one of the conditions of their banner approval. The proposal is the first banner on the front of the building to be changed from 8x14 to 8x8, with the same design, same mesh, with hooks that go into the facing of the window inside. The banner will be flush against the building and would not cover the arched windows.

Mr. Jany stated that the hooks will attach to the building and you will not see the hardware which will be stainless steel and a lock will be on the lower end so that the banners are not stolen. The History Museum will be changing out the banners themselves.

Mrs. Jabba asked if History Museum staff will be changing out the banners themselves and asked what the cost is to change the banners out.

Ms. Rummel responded that it is \$3900 each time to change out.

**M/S** (Jabba/Holt) to approve the new technique for fast banners as well as the lettering design.

**Motion Passed 6-0**

- **Mills Act properties – open for public tours?**  
No new information
- **Sequoia High School Graduation Plaques and c/ 1939 woodshop building update**  
No new information.
- **Downtown Precise Plan Update**  
Mr. Jany stated that the document is growing and will come before the HRAC soon.

#### **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Eva asked that the items, Mills Act Properties and the Sequoia High School Graduation Plaques and woodshop building, be removed from the agenda until there is information to report.

There will be a memorial service for Jean Cloud on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm and the City Council will commemorate Jean.

Mr. Jany stated that there is a fund by HUCA (Historic Union Cemetery Association) for a bench with Jean Cloud's name on it that will be placed at the Historic Union Cemetery.

#### **10. Adjournment**

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

**Motion Passed**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM to reconvene for a special HRAC Meeting at 3:00-6:00PM on May 18, 2009 in Conference Room 1B at City Hall, 1017 Middlefield Road, Redwood City.