

OFFICIAL
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Cultural Heritage Commission Minutes
Thursday, June 18, 2009
200 North Spring Street
Room 1010, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

MINUTES OF CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION HEREIN ARE REPORTED IN **ACTION FORMAT**. COMPLETE DETAILS, **INCLUDING THE DISCUSSION**, RELATING TO EACH ITEM ARE CONTAINED IN THE HEARING RECORDING FOR THIS MEETING. COPIES OF COMPACT DISC RECORDINGS ARE AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING CENTRAL PUBLICATIONS, AT (213) 978-1255 AND ARE ALSO ACCESSIBLE THROUGH THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT <http://www.planning.lacity.org>.

The meeting was called to order by Commission President Richard Barron at 10:11 a.m.

Commissioners present: Glen Dake, Roella Louie, Oz Scott

Commissioner absent: Mia Lehrer

1. DIRECTOR'S REPORT/STAFF REPORT

A. Other items of interest

Ken Bernstein, Manager of the Office of Historic Resources, updated the Commission on the following matters:

- HPOZ Conference held last May 30, 2009. Approximately 150 people in attendance
- City Council approved funding for SurveyLA stimulus package
- Furlough Plan and Work Schedules – City will be requiring 26 furlough days over the next fiscal year starting week of July 6th which will result in the closure of City Hall on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Furlough days will result in 10% reduction in pay.
- Cultural Heritage Ordinance Amendments was heard by the City Planning Commission on June 11th and will continue to its July 9th Hearing.
- Introduced two new interns: Laura Dominguez and Jenna Kachour.

B. Council/Committee Actions and Schedules

- City Council approved Historic Designations for Bob Baker Marionette Theater and See's Candy Shop and Kitchen No. 1 as Historic-Cultural Monuments.
- New motion was introduced by Councilmember Perry on Bethlehem Baptist Church

2. **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

A. Old Business

- 1) Update on Los Angeles Unified School District Historic Schools Investment Fund Board

None

- 2) Review and Advisory Concurrence of Proposed Historic-Cultural Monument Plaque Artwork

Lambert Giessinger, Historic Preservation Architect, submitted for Commission's review and concurrence the proposed bronze plaque artwork for Judson River Building, Historic-Cultural Monument No. 881, as designated monument.

B. New Business

- 1) Advance Calendar

Copy of Advance Calendar was distributed and reviewed by the Commission.

Commissioner Louie brought up the issue of the Special Meeting scheduled for July 1st which will coincide with the Mayor's inauguration and City Hall parking might be a problem.

Ken Bernstein indicated that he will check this matter and will let everyone know.

The Commission was also reminded of the forthcoming joint meeting with the Department of Cultural Affairs on July 16th regarding Watts Towers.

- 2) Commission Announcements/Requests

None

3. CHRISTOPHER HANSON HOUSE, 855 NORTH FIGUEROA TERRACE, CHC-2009-1725-HCM, CD 1.

Review of Historic-Cultural Monument Application. Motion Required

APPLICANT: Charles J. Fisher

OWNER: McCourt College Street LLC

Discussion and Presentation:

Edgar Garcia, Preservation Planner, introduced the case and stated his recommendation not to take the property under consideration as a Historic-Cultural Monument as the application and accompanying photo documentation do not suggest the submittal may warrant further investigation.

The Applicant presented the property and answered questions of the Commission. Two other speakers testified against the property and in support of Staff recommendation.

Motion: Adopt Staff recommendation to not take the property under consideration as a Historic-Cultural Monument per Los Angeles Administrative Code Chapter 9, Division 22, Article 1, Section 22.171.10.

Moved: Commissioner Dake
Seconded: Commissioner Louie
Ayes: Commissioner Scott
Nays: Commissioner Barron
Absent: Commissioner Lehrer

Vote: 3-1

4. PROPOSED BALBOA HIGHLANDS HISTORIC PRESERVATION OVERLAY ZONE LOCATED IN THE BALBOA HIGHLANDS SUBDIVISION ON LISETTE STREET, NANETTE STREET, JIMENO STREET, AND A PORTION OF DARLA AVENUE IN GRANADA HILLS, CPC-2009-258-HPOZ, CD 12. COMMISSION CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS OF THE HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY.

Motion Required

Bernstein briefly introduced the item.

One speaker spoke for the project. Among the topics discussed were Historical Resources Survey including Findings of Significance, Contribution Structures, Re-evaluation of Historic Resources, and Categorical Exemptions.

Bernstein stated that he attended the Community Workshops and so far only one person was opposed to the proposed HPOZ.

Motion: Adopt Staff recommendation contained in the Recommendation Report dated June 18, 2009.

Moved: Commissioner Louie
Seconded: Commissioner Scott
Ayes: Commissioners Dake and Barron
Absent: Commissioner Lehrer

Vote: 4-0

5. **EMBASSY AUDITORIUM AND HOTEL, HCM 299, 843851 S. GRAND AVENUE, CD 9, CHC-1985-1685-HCM-CC1. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION ON THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF THE PROPERTY AS A NEW HOTEL AND BANQUET FACILITY.**
Commission Review and Comment.

APPLICANT: Embassy Partners, LLC
Michael Attias

APPLICANT'S
REPRESENTATIVE: Tara Jones Hamacher and Roger Brevoort, Historic Consultants, Inc.,
Andrew Ratzsch, Ratzsch Architects

Lambert Giessinger introduced the case and its speaker.

Tara Jones Hamacher, Historic Consultant made a power point presentation of the proposed rehabilitation plan for the Embassy Hotel and Auditorium. She familiarized the Commission with some highlights of the project. She also answered questions of the Commission.

The Commission praised the presentation.

The Commission took a short break at 11:44 a.m. and reconvened at 11:51 a.m.

6. **REVIEW OF PROCEDURE FOR PROCESSING COMMENTS TO STATE OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOR NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES AND CALIFORNIA REGISTER OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES DESIGNATIONS IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

Ken Bernstein briefly introduced the topic for discussion.

Edgar Garcia distributed and discussed flow chart of the Proposed Process for Commenting on National Register and California Register Applications.

Copies of a Memorandum to the Council's Rules and Government Committee were also distributed for Commissioners' information.

A speaker made a general comment on the subject matter, reminding the Commission to take their recommendation seriously as it will make a significant impact.

Among other topics discussed were: Site Visits (Staff/CHC Inspections), Staff Reports (Comments, Background analysis, draft resolution), etc.

7. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION BY AUTHOR/ARCHITECTURAL CRITIC ALAN HESS ON CONSIDERATIONS FOR EVALUATING POTENTIAL HISTORIC RESOURCES OF THE "RECENT PAST."

Bernstein introduced the guest speaker, Alan Hess, Author/Architectural Critic, who gave a Power Point presentation on Considerations for Evaluating Potential Historic Resources of the "Recent Past". He also presented various architectural examples and answered questions of the Commission.

The Commission thanked him for the presentation.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

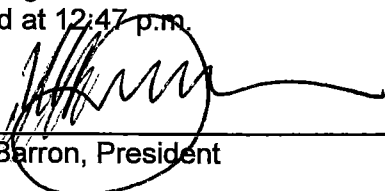
None

9. NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE: THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2009

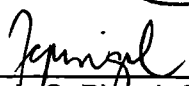
10. INSPECTION TOUR*/DISCUSSION

1. WILSON HOUSE, 2090 Redcliff Street, CHC-2009-1307-HCM, CD 4
2. ROSS HOUSE, 2123 Valentine Street, CHC-2009-1304-HCM, CD 13
3. LIPETZ HOUSE, 1843 North Dillon Street, CHC-2009-1391-Hcm, CD 4

There being no further business to come before the Cultural Heritage Commission, the meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.



Richard Barron, President



Fely C. Pingol, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission

Adopted: 7-16-09