

Cultural Heritage Commission
Official Minutes
Thursday, November 17, 2022
(VIA TELECONFERENCE)

MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION HEREIN ARE REPORTED IN ACTION FORMAT. THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION RELATED TO EACH ITEM IS ACCESSIBLE IN AUDIO FORMAT ONLINE AT planning.lacity.org. TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO FILE: SELECT “ABOUT”, “COMMISSIONS, BOARDS & HEARINGS”, FILTER BY “CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION”, LOCATE THE COMMISSION MEETING DATE AND SELECT THE “AUDIO” BUTTON.

In accordance with Government Code Section 54953, subsections (e)(1) and (e)(3), and in light of the State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020 relating to COVID-19 and ongoing concerns that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees and/or that the State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person, the Cultural Heritage Commission’s November 17, 2022 meeting was conducted via telephone and/or videoconferencing.

Commission President Barry Milofsky called the regular meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. with Commission Vice President Gail Kennard and Commissioners Richard Barron and Diane Kanner in attendance.

Commissioner Pilar Buelna was not in attendance.

Also in attendance were Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, representing the Director of Planning; Shannon Ryan, Senior City Planner; Lambert Giessinger, Senior Architect; Melissa Jones, City Planning Associate; Kimberly Huangfu, Deputy City Attorney; Etta Armstrong, Commission Executive Assistant; and Diego Vazquez, Commission Office Staff.

ITEM NO. 1

DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE HOLDING MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCE

Motion Required. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(B)-(C), and (e)(3)(A) and (e)(3)(B)(i), a determination that the COVID-19 State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person and possible Commission action.

Commission Vice President Kennard moved to adopt the resolution under which the Commission finds that holding meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Kanner seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Kennard
Seconded: Kanner
Ayes: Barron, Milofsky
Absent: Buelna

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 2

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS

Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, had several items of interest:

- Governor Newsom recently announced his intention to end California's declared COVID-19 State of Emergency as of February 28, 2023. Boards and Commissions under the purview of City Planning, have been making regular findings under Assembly Bill (AB) 361, approved last year, to allow for teleconference meetings under the Ralph M. Brown Act. However, the provisions of AB 361 are directly tied to the continuance of California's State of Emergency. The Governor's announcement means that, unless the State of Emergency is later extended, it appears that all boards and commissions subject to the Brown Act will be required to meet in person as of March 1, 2023.

Since our boards and commissions have been meeting remotely since the Spring of 2020, the Department understands that this will be a significant change for both board and commission members, staff, and the public. The Department is beginning to re-evaluate our previous meeting venues and we anticipate that some of our previously used locations for boards may no longer be available or suitable to host our meetings.

We hope to add the convenience to the public of enabling virtual participation in our meetings. The Department is therefore exploring the feasibility of holding hybrid meetings, in order to give members of the public the continued opportunity to participate remotely. There are significant resource constraints to solve to make this happen in terms of technology and additional staffing. We will provide updates as we get closer to our expected March transition.

- The Office of Historic Resources (OHR) is launching a new program – the Historic Home Rehabilitation Program. This is a pilot program which we will be offering technical assistance and financial assistance for home repair and rehabilitation projects in one of our Historic Preservation Overlay Zones, the Adams-Normandie HPOZ. We received a budget allocation to demonstrate this approach, and it is aimed at providing assistance to property owners who need guidance in navigating the HPOZ approval process and to lower-income property owners who need financial assistance. The new program is a partnership between the OHR and the USC School of Architecture, including the USC Heritage Conservation program. Our launch has been delayed a bit but we will be working with Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County (NHS), which has deep experience in the South Los Angeles region in providing housing assistance, technical assistance, and financial education to lower-income homeowners. USC interns are being retained by NHS, to help supplement NHS' own staff in providing assistance to the property owners. An additional partner is the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), whose architects can provide more detailed architectural guidance or to pursue stamped plans for more complex projects. This project was announced at last week's Adams-Normandie HPOZ Board meeting, and we will be organizing additional community meetings and workshops in the coming weeks. It's our hope that, while this was a one-time budget allocation, a successful pilot program can help make the case for a larger-scale home rehabilitation program in the coming year.
- Council and Committee updates: last week, the full Council approved two new Historic-Cultural Monuments, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union State Headquarters on Kingsley Drive and the Queen of Elysian Heights residence on Echo Park Avenue.

Old Business

- There was no old business.

New Business

- There was no new business.
- Advance Calendar – Commissioner Kennard noted that she will miss the meeting on January 5, 2023.
- Commission Announcements/Requests – There were no announcements from the Commissioners.

ITEM NO. 3

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

There were no speakers who addressed the Commission during Neighborhood Council presentations.

ITEM NO. 4

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no speakers who addressed the Commission during the general public comment period.

ITEM NO. 5

PROPOSED MONUMENT: WATTS CITY HALL AND ENGINE COMPANY NO. 65

[CHC-2022-5974-HCM](#)

CEQA: ENV-2022-5975-CE
Plan Area: Southeast Los Angeles

Council District: 15 – Buscaino

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1513 – 1525 East 103rd Street

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rosalind Sagara, Los Angeles Conservancy, Applicant.

Commission Vice President Kennard put forth the actions below and moved to include Watts City Hall and Engine Company No. 65 in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that the proposed designation is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Determine whether the property conforms with the definition of a Monument pursuant to LAAC Section 22.171.7;
3. Recommend that the City Council consider and declare the subject property a Historic-Cultural Monument; and
4. Adopt the Findings of the staff report as the Findings of the Commission.

Commissioner Barron seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Kennard
Seconded: Barron
Ayes: Kanner, Milofsky
Absent: Buelna

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 6

PROPOSED MONUMENT: SILBERBERG BUILDING

[CHC-2022-5941-HCM](#)

CEQA: ENV-2022-5942-CE
Plan Area: Wilshire

Council District: 5 – Koretz

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 7274 – 7290 West Beverly Boulevard;
180 – 182 North Poinsettia Place

IN ATTENDANCE:

Morgan Quirk, Architectural Resources Group, Preparer; and Maurice Mazur and Susan Mazur, Owners.

Commissioner Kanner put forth the actions below and moved to include Silberberg Building in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that the proposed designation is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Determine whether the property conforms with the definition of a Monument pursuant to LAAC Section 22.171.7;
3. Recommend that the City Council consider and declare the subject property a Historic-Cultural Monument; and
4. Adopt the Findings of the staff report as the Findings of the Commission.

Commissioner Barron seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Kanner
Second: Barron
Ayes: Kennard, Milofsky
Absent: Buelna

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 7

PROPOSED MONUMENT: TENOCHTITLAN: THE WALL THAT TALKS

CHC-2022-5945-HCM

CEQA: ENV-2022-5946-CE

Plan Area: Northeast Los Angeles

Council District: 1 – Cedillo

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 6029 – 6039 North Figueroa Street

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jade Puga, Safada Y Sano, Preparer.

Commissioner Barron put forth the actions below and moved to include Tenochtitlan: The Wall that Talks in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that the proposed designation is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Determine whether the property conforms with the definition of a Monument pursuant to LAAC Section 22.171.7;
3. Recommend that the City Council consider and declare the subject property a Historic-Cultural Monument; and
4. Adopt the Findings of the staff report as the Findings of the Commission.

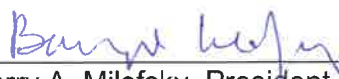
Commission Vice President Kennard seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Barron
Second: Kennard
Ayes: Kanner, Milofsky
Absent: Buelna

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

There being no further business to come before the Cultural Heritage Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.


Barry A. Milofsky, President
Cultural Heritage Commission

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

AUG 17 2023

**CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION OFFICE**



Alice Inawat, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission