

## Historical Landmarks & Records Advisory Commission

The regular meeting of the Historic Landmarks & Records Commission was held at the Sanger Branch Library on May 15, 2008.

Members present: John Baltierra, Judy Ganulin, Nancy Enloe, Aileen Bos, Susan Pappas, Roger Taylor, Steve Barile, Bud Olson, David Berkey, Don Shantz, Penny Raven, Jim Kus, Peg Bos, Elizabeth Laval, Randy McFarland  
Others present: Karen Bosch Cobb, Bill Secrest, Jr., Elida Mendoza

### AGENDA ITEMS

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Randy McFarland.
2. Welcome and Call to Order: Chairman McFarland welcomed all guests and Commission members. He announced that Dr. David Berkey was officially appointed to the Commission on April 28, 2008. Mrs. Peg Bos announced she married Mr. Bob Ferrar "the unofficial mayor of Academy" on March 12, and she received warm wishes and congratulations from fellow Commissioners.
3. Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was adopted with a correction: Regarding the Velasco house under item 9 a) 1) a) a note was added that on March 13 the Commission withdrew approval of the historic designation application, and submission of a new application was encouraged.
4. Approval of Minutes of March 13, 2008: Under 11 b) Commissioner Raven added that Chairman Randy McFarland was presented a commendation by Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, and it is in the California History & Genealogy Room. It was moved by Commissioner Pappas, seconded by Commissioner Aileen Bos, and carried to approve the minutes with the addition of this information.
5. Comments from the Public: None.
6. California History & Genealogy Room Acquisitions: Mr. Bill Secrest, Jr., reported that the files in the California Room which he described as ephemera files are now in alphabetical order and more accessible. He said these files contain a substantial collection of unusual souvenirs. Mr. Secrest, Jr., also mentioned that the web page for this department is being re-designed.
7. Records: It was moved by Commissioner Kus, seconded by Commissioner Olson, and carried to approve the retention schedule below as recommended by Mrs. Bosch Cobb for approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Per Fresno County Management Directive 430, Section 434.43 "The Commission may at its discretion delegate to its Secretary (County Librarian) the responsibility for review of certain classes of records and for making recommendation as to their disposition." (Approved by the HLRC January 12, 2006.)

Record Type	Schedule Number	Department	Recommend Commission Review
Children's Medical Records AMENDED	1450.08.02	Community Health	No

8. Approve placement of the first Centennial Communities on the Register of Centennial Communities: Committee members Pappas and McFarland and Bosch Cobb distributed a revised list of centennial communities for review and discussion. Chairman McFarland thanked Commissioner Pappas for undertaking a major part of the research involving this project. After lengthy review and discussion and more changes to the list, it was moved by Commissioner Olson, seconded by Commissioner Shantz, and carried to authorize the committee to revise the list and submit it to the Board of Supervisors when it is finalized. Mrs. Bosch Cobb will work on deciding who should receive the certificates. Chairman McFarland volunteered to personally accept the certificate for Camp Sierra.

9. Landmarks

a) Inventory of Historic Sites in Fresno County

- 1) Pending Applications – Update from subcommittee appointed to review the application

- a) Velasco House: At the March 13, 2008 meeting the Commission withdrew approval for the historic designation application and encouraged Mrs. Velasco to submit a new application. No new information has been received from Mrs. Velasco.

2) Applications Under Review

- a) Hall of Records: Mr. Secrest, Jr. received information from the State Historic Preservation Commission that they expect to consider the Hall of Records application at their November 2008 meeting.

Commissioner Taylor shared information from an 1891 newspaper report that the Board of Supervisors had approved the beginning of plans for the Hall of Records.

3) Suggestions for Other Applications

- a) Sierra Sky Park: Consider designation as an historic district: Mrs. Bosch Cobb and Mr. Secrest, Jr., met with Mr. Darnell and Mr. Bernard Jimenez from Fresno County Public Works to discuss what historic designation would mean for the Sky Park property owners. Some of the Sierra Sky Park property is in the City, and some is in the County. Mr. Darnell is working on the application, and he plans to do an oral interview with Mrs. Doris Smilie, the widow of founder William V. Smilie.
- b) Arco Garage: There was no new information about the application. Ownership of the building has transferred to Mr. Chris Johnson and Mr. Bruce Owdom, and the Fresno City and County Historical Society owns the façade. There was discussion about the condition of the exterior of the building. The City of Fresno has been focusing on improving several blocks along Kern Street, and some members of the Commission expressed concern that the lack of repairs to the



building may have a negative impact on the neighboring businesses. Mr. Taylor volunteered to contact Mr. Owdom to express the Commission's concerns, and he will report back to the Commission.

Discussion moved to strengthening the County Historic Preservation section of the County General Plan, and a suggestion was made to invite Mr. Bernard Jimenez to the September meeting to discuss this matter further.

c) Inventory

- 1) Discuss how to get applications for new historic sites – Mrs. Bosch Cobb distributed a copy of a Fresno Bee article about 100 year old churches in Kingsburg. Mr. Secrest, Jr., and Mrs. Bosch Cobb will meet to discuss the list.

Chairman McFarland suggested publicizing the Commission's historic designation programs through a press release. Mrs. Bosch Cobb will ask Ms. Roberta Barton, Fresno County Library Public Information Officer, to do this.

b) Centennial Farms – None.

c) Centennial Businesses – None.

d) Courthouse Park grounds/markers/memorials and sculptures – None.

e) 1) Discussion of threatened buildings in the City of Fresno – Commissioner Taylor reported that Heritage Fresno is continuing to monitor the Chinatown redevelopment project regarding preservation of historic buildings in that area. Other items discussed were the caretaker's residence at the Chaffee Zoo, and a new building on Glenn and Divisadero built by the City of Fresno. Commissioner Taylor said he was pleased that the building blends in with the neighborhood's architecture.

2) Discussion of threatened buildings in the County of Fresno – None.

11. Reports and Administrative Action Items

a) Chairman's report

1) Election of Officers

- a) It was moved by Commissioner Barile, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, and carried to elect Mr. Randy McFarland for another term as Chairman.

It was moved by Commissioner Raven, seconded by Commission Aileen Bos, and carried to elect Mr. Roger Taylor for another term as Vice-Chairman.

2) Field Trips

Commissioner Aileen Bos's husband is considering planning a tour to Cathys Valley when the school is restored. She will notify the Commission when plans are made.

b) Vice-Chairman's Report

- 1) Update on Del Rey Historic Properties: Commissioner Taylor reported there are seven properties that need additional information which can only be obtained by interviewing people; he will be asking for volunteers to help at the next meeting.

c) Secretary's Report

- 1) Attendance Report: Distributed. No discussion.
- 2) Status of Vacancies: There is one Commission-nominated vacancy, and one Board of Supervisors-appointed vacancy in District 1. Mrs. Bosch-Cobb also reported that she received an application from Dr. Ethan J. Kytte. The application will be reviewed by Chairman McFarland and Mrs. Bosch Cobb before it is forwarded to the Board of Supervisors.

d) Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Laval invited the Commission to hold a future meeting at the Pop Laval gallery. She also talked about the Sugar Pine mill site and plans underway for a dedication of a memorial in February. Commissioner Taylor reported on the Vernacular Architecture Forum held May 7-10 in Fresno. Commissioner Raven shared a letter from former Commissioner Cathy Rehart from Oregon.

10. Announcements

The next meeting will be held on September 18, 2008.