

## Historical Resources Management Commission Hattie Weber Museum – 445 C Street, Davis, California Corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and C Streets in Central Park Monday, February 25, 2013

Commissioners Present: Rand Herbert (Chair), Mark Beason (Vice Chair), Richard Rifkin,

Linda Zablotny-Hurst, Karen Clementi, William Allen Lowry

(Alternate), Gale Sosnick

Commissioners Absent: Scott Miltenberger (Excused)

Council Liaisons Present: None Staff Present: Ike Njoku

1. Call to Order. Chairperson Herbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Action: Vice Chairperson Beason moved, seconded by Commissioner Rifkin, to approve

the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes.

Action: Commissioner Zablotny-Hurst moved, seconded by Commissioner Clementi, to

approve the minutes of February 25, 2013 with a minor edit. The motion passed

unanimously.

4. Public Communications. None

- **5. Written Communications.** Staff Liaison Njoku circulated written communications among the Commissioners.
- 6. Museum Report. Museum Director Dennis Dingemans presented the museum report. He reported that the museum has had a big year already with a total of 270 visitors, and 75 visitors in the past weekend alone. He informed the Commission that there are more docents now, including a 24 year old that joined recently. He indicated that the museum has new exhibits reflecting the 1990s. He announced the continued opportunity to purchase bricks, indicating that the bricks generate revenue for the museum operations. He added that an object presumed to be the cap of the City's first water tower weighing 40 pounds was donated by Mr. Mills to the museum; although the authenticity of cap is yet to be established. Chairperson Herbert offered to assist with the validation of the object. Commissioner Rifkin inquired about the status of the WPA restrooms building. Director Dingemans indicated that the status is unknown at this time.
- 7. Staff, Council Liaison, and Commissioner, Comments. Commission Rifkin stated that there is no new information to report to the Commission on the Terminal Hotel sign project. Commissioners Lowry and Sosnick asked if there will be additional opportunity to further review the final version of the sign. Commissioner Rifkin asked Commissioners to review the PDF already emailed to each Commissioner as there may not be significant changes made to it.

### 8. Public Hearing.

# A. PA #13-07 for Preapplication/Demolition #01-13 -- Review and Determination of Historical Resources Analysis Prepared for 445 Russell Boulevard

Staff Liaison Njoku presented the staff report. He elaborated on the background and why the HRA inventory and evaluation report was before the Commission.

Historical Consultant Dana Supernowicz introduced himself, and explained the HRA inventory and evaluation report on 445 Russell Boulevard. He answered questions from the Commission as well.

The Commission had comments and questions, which include the following that were addressed by Mr. Supernowicz and staff:

- The garage is not visible from the street; therefore, its demolition should be supported and not hindered.
- The garage is an incidental structure; therefore, its demolition should be supported.
- The ordinance charges the Commission on the evaluation of the HRA survey and evaluation report independent of the garage demolition, which incidentally is not before the Commission tonight. The discussions should focus on what is before the Commission tonight.
- The HRA report needs to provide further clarification on the connection of Abbott to Davis. Consultant Supernowicz provided further oral details.
- The HRA report needs to provide clarification on the district being defined, and whether entry portico was enclosed into a porch. The Consultant Supernowicz addressed the comment, and agreed to make necessary corrections in the final report.
- The building characterization is not totally accurate and should be re-visited. There was additional discussion on the building architecture, and further clarifications.

#### **Action:**

Vice Chairperson Beason moved and seconded by Commissioner Clementi to moved, to determine that the historical resources analysis (HRA) inventory and evaluation report prepared for the property at 455 Russell Boulevard is appropriate and acceptable; the HRA appropriately concludes that the property appears to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR), and qualifies for designation as a Davis Landmark property, thus, is subject to the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Commissioner Zablotny-Hurst's friendly amendment that the final report should include modification consisting, but not limited to: a) minor modifications to the evaluation report to reflect Commission's comments related to the evaluation; b) addition on page 27 of the report a list of the recommendations or findings relative to the listings in the federal, state and local registers as well as being subject to CEQA; c) addition of photographs shown to the Commission at the meeting and other existing photographs of the property not included in the report to provide a more complete

recordation; and d) modification of the discussion about the potential mitigation measure of HABS should the garage be approved to demolished, such as a sentence that might read: "if demolition of the garage is approved or deemed appropriate, any chosen mitigation measures should include HABS documentation." The changes were acceptable to both motion maker and seconder.

### The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beason, Clementi, Herbert, Lowry, Rifkin, Zablotny-Hurst

**Noes:** Sosnick

Action: Commissioner Lowry moved, seconded by Commissioner Rifkin, to direct

staff to return on April 15, 2013 with a report recommending to the City

Council the designation of the property as a Davis Landmark.

The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: Beason, Clementi, Herbert, Lowry, Rifkin, Zablotny-Hurst

Noes:

**Abstained:** Sosnick

9. Business Items.

A. 2012-14 Goals/Work Plan Relative to Demolition Ordinance. Subcommittee recommendation to be discussed by the Commission

Commissioner Beason presented the subcommittee's recommendation. He described the proposed changes to the demolition ordinance and why those changes are needed.

Staff Liaison Njoku also provided additional input on the proposed changes.

The Commission discussed the proposed changes and decided that each Commission should pass on to Staff Liaison Njoku edits, comments, and changes for consolidation. The consolidated draft will return to the Commission at its regular meeting in April 2013 for further discussion and possible action.

**10. Adjournment.** The next meeting will be Monday, April 15, 2013 at the Hattie Weber Museum (445 C Street) at 7:00 pm.

Action: Vice Chairperson Beason moved, seconded by Commissioner Clementi to adjourn the meeting to April 15, 2013.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjoined at 9:43 p.m.