



City of Davis
Historical Resources Management Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 22, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Senior Center, 646 A Street, Activity Room, Davis, CA 95616
(Southeast Corner of A Street & 7th Street)

Commissioners Present: Arianna Laleh, David Hickman, William Allen Lowry, Scott Miltenberger (Chairperson), Michelle Van Meter, Erin Autry Montgomery, Ning Wan
Commissioner(s) Absent: Jordan Jacobs
Council Liaison(s) Present: Josh Chapman
Staff Present: Ike Njoku, Planner & Historical Resources Manager

1. Call to Order & Roll Call.

Chairperson Miltenberger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and took roll call. He noted that Commissioner Jacobs has excused absent.

Chairperson Miltenberger welcomed our new City Council Liaison Chapman and Commissioner Laleh. He provided a little background of the Commission, and explained that he had previously reached to Council Liaison Chapman regarding the Commission work plan. Council Liaison Chapman introduced himself and expressed appreciation for the work the Commission does for the City. Commissioner Laleh introduced herself as well.

2. Approval of Agenda.

Action: Montgomery moved, seconded by Lowry to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Consent Calendar

A. December 1, 2020, meeting minute approval. Van Meter moved and seconded by Hickman to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments

None.

5. Business Items.

A. Certified Local Government (CLG) Annual Report. Chairperson Miltenberger introduced the item, and asked Staff Liaison Njoku for a brief introduction of the report. Njoku indicated that Commission is being asked to provide edits, corrections and/or comments on the CLG Annual report. Chairperson Miltenberger explained what the CLG Annual report represents for the benefit of the new Council Liaison Chapman and Commissioner Laleh. The Commission identified the omission of Commissioner Van Meter's reappointment term expiration of 12/31/2024, and the fact that the number of resources that the Commission acted upon during the fiscal year was not included. Chairperson Miltenberger encouraged Commissioners to send

any edits, comments or corrections identified later to Staff Liaison Njoku. Njoku informed the Commission that the next steps are provision of the report to the City Council after which the report will be transmitted to the OHP with the goal of meeting the submission deadline.

B. April 20, 2021, Joint Council / HRMC Meeting. Chairperson Miltenberger asked Staff Liaison Njoku to introduce the item. Njoku informed the Commission that the City Clerk's Office had scheduled a joint Commission and Council meeting on April 20, 2021. He reminded the Commission about the joint meeting format, and Chairperson Miltenberger elaborated on the process for the benefit of the Commission.

C. Bike Lanes Designation as a Landmark Update. Chairperson Miltenberger provided background and asked Staff Liaison Njoku to provide update. Njoku informed the Commission that a draft staff report has been prepared and is under review by City management staff.

City Council Liaison Chapman informed the Commission that given his previous discussions with Chairperson Miltenberger, he had a conversation with Assistant City Manager Ashley Feeney. He reported that Mr. Feeney assured him that the bike lanes designation staff report would be presented to the City Council on April 20, 2021. In addition, Council Liaison Chapman informed the Commission that the City Council would be holding its retreat for 2021-2022 goal setting session on March 23, 2021. He encouraged the Commission to provide the City Clerk its goals/work plan for consideration at the March 23, 2021, goals setting session.

Chairperson Miltenberger and Staff Liaison Njoku thanked Council Liaison Chapman for the good news, and expressed a need for a Subcommittee to review the Commission's goals and modify as necessary in order to comply with the City Clerk's request. A Subcommittee of Chairperson Miltenberger and Montgomery was selected to assist Njoku to update the Commission's goals. Commissioners were encouraged to send to Njoku any suggestions for consolidation and full Commission action on March 15, 2021.

D. Bike Lanes Nomination Update. Chairperson Miltenberger explained to the Commission that the introduction letter to the application is pending the outcome of City Council designation of the bike lanes as a Landmark. He added that he would send the letter to the Subcommittee on the national register application for review and input.

E. CLG \$5,000 Grant Fund. The Commission had a robust discussion about how best the money should be used, including bike lanes signage, Village Homes survey, but concluded, by consensus, that its December 21, 2020, decision to use the fund in the College Park historic district management plan effort should not be changed.

The Commission agreed by consensus that the next steps in the College Park historic district management efforts would include: 1) completion of the College Park historic district properties' survey update; and 2) continued efforts on outreach to College Park property owners and residents (Subcommittee of Chairperson Miltenberger and Lowry will update the previous outreach letter) to be sent to solicit input and possible Zoom meeting.

- F. Cornell HPPA Collaborative Research Grant Update.** Commissioner Van Meter updated her efforts in seeking a \$1,000, student grant to possibly assist in the survey of Village Homes. She indicated that no student has yet responded to her outreach efforts, but remains optimistic. The Commission talked about including the WPA date stamp that could motivate a student to pursue the grant. Commissioner Van Meter stated that she would keep the Commission informed of any progress.
- G. Seeking Grant Applications.** Vice-chairperson Lowry stated that he has no grant in mind, but wanted to encourage the Commission to keep an eye out for opportunities, noting that he has no experience in grant writing. Commissioners were encourage to seek out grant funds opportunities.
- H. WPA Building / Date Stamp Marking.** Vice-chairperson Lowry introduced the item, and stated that he wanted to update the Commission that at last the WPA building has undergone some minor but necessary improvement to retain the building and commit the building as a storage space for the museum. He added that options existing to preserve the WPA date stamps, and his interest in getting in touch with appropriate staff to discuss options. He re-emphasized the importance of preserving the WPA date stamps. Njoku was direct to connect Vice-chairperson Lowry with appropriate staff and Ms. Moore from Old North who has interest as well in the preservation of the concrete date stamps.
- I. Village Homes as a potential district.** The Commission consensus was that efforts should be made to capture Village Homes subdivision early to minimize similar issues encountered in Elmwood subdivision and being experienced in College Park. Vice-chairperson Lowry volunteered, as a Subcommittee on one, to contact Village Homes Home Owners Association Board to ascertain the level of interest in seeing Village Homes become an historic district.
- J. Subcommittee's Finding Reports and/or Presentations on Eligible Historic Districts.** Chairperson Miltenberger asked Elmwood Subcommittee member Hickman to provide the Commission overview of the findings regarding the eligible district. Commissioner Hickman explain the map of the subdivision provided to Commissioners via email, and stated that the conclusion is that there is not enough cohesion for Elmwood to remain an eligible historic district as identified in the citywide 2015 survey.

Commissioner Van Meter provided explanations of the map and documentation previously provided to the Commission on University Estates subdivisions. She explained that her Subcommittee found that there is adequate concentration for the eligible district to remain, although the northerly segment could be removed from the eligible district's boundary.

Chairperson Miltenberger encouraged Commissioners to ask question, but tabled the decision on the findings to future meetings. The Commission deliberated on the best approach to make a recommendation to the City Council on the findings. The Commission agreed that a formal report requesting modification of the 2015 approved

boundaries for University Estates and elimination of the Elmwood eligibility should be considered.

K. College Park Historic District. The Commission discussed and agreed that the letter to College Park property owners and residents should be updated and sent out in order to further engage them to ascertain interest in the College Park historic district management plan. In addition, Commissioner Montgomery and Staff Liaison Njoku were asked to continue efforts to get updated cost estimate from Mr. Mike Garaviglia on the College Park historic district management plan. Njoku informed the Commission that staff is finalizing the College Park Historic Preservation Overlay Zoning ordinance future Commission consideration and input with the goal of formal recommendation for adoption by the City Council.

6. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners and Liaisons.

Again, Chairperson welcomed and thanked Council Liaison Chapman and new Commissioner Laleh. Council Liaison Chapman again expressed his appreciation of the Commissioners hard work and volunteer spirit.

7. Adjourn.

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 15, 2021. The location is yet to be determined, but start times remains 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Hickman and seconded by Lowry. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.