

APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY OF ALAMEDA HISTORICAL ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023

1. CONVENE

Vice Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members of the public can participate in person or remotely via Zoom For information to assist with Zoom participation, please click: <https://www.alamedaca.gov/zoom>.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Vice-Chair Jones and Board Members Saxby, and Borthwick.

Absent: Chair Sanchez and Board Member Hernandez.

3. MINUTES

3-A 2023-2953 - *Historical Advisory Board Draft Meeting Minutes - November 3, 2022*

Link to recording of meeting:

https://alameda.granicus.com/player/clip/3051?view_id=6&redirect=true&h=4985eb16ab9e160f64e08743a83a003a.

Board Members discussed and asked clarifying questions about the new minute taking process (*2:04).

Board Member Saxby made a motion to approve the November 3rd 2022 minutes as written and Board Member Borthwick seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 3-0.

4. AGENDA CHANGES AND DISCUSSION

None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Christopher Buckley, in person speaker, noted that it was hard to hear certain people and noted that maybe the sound system needed adjustment.

6. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

7. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

7-A 2023-2955

Amending Historical Advisory Board Rules and Procedures. Adopt a Resolution amending the Rules and Procedures of the City Historical Advisory Board to implement

a new, standardized agenda format recommended by the City Clerk and make other revisions as needed. CEQA Determination: Not a Project

Henry Dong, Planner III, introduced this item (*17:56). The staff report and attachments can be found at

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6116149&GUID=22994335-9742-43A9-B374-52DEBB3C753A&FullText=1>.

Board Members clarifying questions start at *21:01.

Public Comment for Item 7A

Christopher Buckley, in person speaker, discussed the order of the agenda and gave recommendations (*29:54). He asked that non agenda public comments remain twice in the meeting to give public speakers ample time to comment.

Action for Item 7A

Board discussion starts at *32:52.

Board Member Saxby made a motion to approve the new rules and procedures for the Historical Advisory Board with the addition of adding a second non agenda public comment after the main agenda items were closed and encourage staff to add to the qualifications of being a HAB member “historian or an architectural historian”. Board Member Borthwick seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion past 3-0.

7-B 2023-2956

Receive the 2022 Annual Reports. Receive the Annual Reports on the General Plan, Transportation Choices Plan, Vision Zero Action Plan, and the Climate Action and Resiliency Plan. CEQA Determination: The annual reports are statutorily exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3). (20962710).

Andrew Thomas, Planning Building and Transportation Director, introduced this item (*36:51). The staff report and attachments can be found at

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6116150&GUID=4B1F5873-907E-4063-8C61-A2E986812C60>

Board Member clarifying questions start at *39:22.

Public Comment for item 7B

None

Action for Item 7B

There was no action taken on this item.

7-C 2023-2957

Public Workshop to Review and Comment on the City of Alameda's Objective Design Review Standards.

Staff Member Dong introduced this item and gave a brief introduction (*46:10). The staff report and attachments can be found at

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6116151&GUID=84074114-0AC6-4E7D-8917-32291FFA4569&FullText=1>.

David Sablan, Planner II, also presented (*47:50).

Board clarifying questions start at *1:01:23.

Public Comment for Item 7C

Christopher Buckley, Alameda Architectural Preservation Society, discussed a letter he had sent the board (*1:09:20). He had questions about the process for this and what other input would be gathered from other boards. He also discussed a map that included Park St that had been left out. He also discussed concerns for applicants and thoughts on relaxing some of the window guidelines.

Action for Item 7C

Board Member discussion and comments started at *1:14:45.

Staff Member Sablan summarized the board's comments at *2:15:01.

- Limitation on Blank Walls - Recommend supplementing trellises with ground level planters as an option.
- Building Orientation & Entries – Recommend requiring enclosed stairways and breezeways on street facing facades.
- Primary Building Entrances – Recommend exemption for specific housing, in those cases require pedestrian oriented landscaping along street frontage in those cases.
- Equivalent Façade Treatment – Recommend equal treatment on all 4 sides.
- Equipment Screening – Waive screening requirement on non-street facing elevations, suggest looking at equipment setbacks in Zoning Ordinance.
- Support standard to limit massing of second stories, in case of bungalows second story should be setback
- Golden Mean – No recommended changes.

- Traditional Design Area – Strongly recommend including Webster Street and North Park Street, and look at entire commercial stations for context
- Windows – Recommend keeping standards for primary facades and relaxing standards on other elevations.
- Neighborhood Context – Disqualify significantly altered buildings from consideration as a reference building.
- Include One and Two Family in the Traditional Design Area
- Consider text edits proposed in by AAPS

This was a discussion item and no action was taken.

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

None.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Staff Member Dong let the board know that the chambers would not be available for the May meeting.

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Christopher Buckley (*2:26:28) discussed the logistics on joint meetings and how to accommodate multiple boards meeting at once.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Jones adjourned the meeting at 9:28 pm.

**the minute mark in the video to hear the comments in full.*