

Approved Meeting Minutes
City of Alameda Historical Advisory Board
Thursday, September 6, 2012
7:00 p.m.

1. CONVENE

2. ROLL CALL- Present: Chair Owens, Vice Chair Rauk, Board Members, Jasper, and Lynch

Absent: Board member Hoffman

3. MINUTES

Minutes from the March 1, 2012 Meeting

Vice Chair Rauk motioned to approve minutes as amended.

Board member Lynch seconded the motion

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions

Minutes from the April 5, 2012 Meeting

Board member Lynch motioned to approve minutes as amended

Vice Chair Rauk seconded the motion

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions

Minutes from the July 5, 2012 meeting

Vice Chair Rauk motioned to approved minutes as amended

Chair Owens seconded the motion

Motion carried, 3-0; 1 abstentions, Vice Chair Rauk

4. AGENDA CHANGES AND DISCUSSIONS

Staff requested that Item 9, staff communications move to the top of the Agenda. Andrew Thomas, Acting City Planner, stated that the representative from Alameda High School will not be able to attend the public hearing and asked the board if they would prefer to continue the item to the meeting of October 4, 2012.

Chair Owens stated that the public hearing is not an action item and discussion will most likely be continued to the following meeting; he suggested that any people who desire to speak may comment during Oral Communications, and he clarified with staff that Item 7-C (Report on Alameda Historic High School Retrofit) will be continued to next month's meeting.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Thomas introduced Barbara Meerjans who is a new part time staff member and will focus on the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Trish Spencer, resident, speaking as an individual, asked if it would have been more appropriate for the School Board to work with the Historical Advisory Board prior to the

installation of the fence surrounding the high school. She requested clarification of the process and how both boards could have worked together.

6. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Owens, shared an email from Christopher Buckley representing AAPS addressing the ceiling soffit at Habana's restaurant. He disclosed that the Board received communication from the Veterans Affairs Office, he stated that the subject matter is not pertinent to the current meeting and requested that board members read it in due time.

7. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

7.A. Certificate of Approval for 1417 Park Street

Andrew Thomas, Planning Services Manager, gave brief presentation.

Betty Lee, applicant, stated that she tried to design the new sign to match the old.

Peter Beck, landlord, stated that there is no use for the old sign and the new tenant should have every opportunity to have her own sign.

Staff clarified that there is not a clear plan for what to do with the old sign and is open to board suggestions.

Chair Owens asked if the old letters could be used in the new sign which would match the old sign exactly.

Mr. Beck responded that the material may be different.

Board member Lynch stated that the letter substitution would break up the historical sign and the new sign would have to be changed to match the historical lettering. She clarified that the old sign is made of wood and the new sign is made of aluminum.

Chair Owens commented that the thickness of the lettering should be narrower and the spacing between the words should be increased.

Board member Lynch stated that her first preference is to see the sign saved and moved to a different location. Her second alternative would be to use as much of the old sign as possible.

Chair Owens inquired as to whether the museum could store the individual letters.

Vice Chair Rauk expressed concern with reusing the old lettering and the effect that would have on the size of the current sign.

Chair Owens opened public comment.

Dianne Hofmann Sasser, grandchild of the original business owner, requested that the sign be preserved in some manner and requested that she or her cousin be notified if/when the sign is removed or destroyed. She stated she will leave her contact information with staff.

Chair Owens closed public comment

Board member Lynch confirmed that she will discuss the storing of the sign with the Alameda Museum and will approach staff with Museum Board's decision.

Chair Owens suggested that the certificate of approval be amended and state that the existing sign shall be salvaged, the lettering on the new sign shall be modified to match the stroke and width of the existing letter "e" old sign. Staff shall review and approve the revised shop drawings, and the paint coating shall be a Fluorocarbon base or the equivalent.

Vice Rauk seconded the motion.

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions

7B. Certificate of Approval for 1532 Park Street

Andrew Thomas, Planning Services Manager, gave brief presentation

Vice Chair Rauk clarified with the applicant that the existing tiles will be used.

Vice Chair Rauk motioned to approve the staff resolution

Board member Lynch seconded the motion

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions.

7C. Alameda High School

Chair Owens motioned to continue the item until the next meeting, when the High School representative can be present.

Board member Lynch seconded the motion.

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions

7-D. Update on Habanas Restaurant

Andrew Thomas, Planning Services Manager, gave brief presentation.

Board member Lynch asked staff to clarify that building inspections are initiated by the project contractor.

Board member Jasper clarified with staff that the project contractor has not requested any inspections, and the City has actually initiated inspections.

Chair Owens clarified with staff that there is a clear code violation from a safety issue and the City can start a citation process, which can ultimately lead to a court hearing. Staff stated that the citation process will be initiated if the owner chooses not to address the issue. He requested that staff advise the board if there are any actions that the board can pursue in regards to the violations of conditions of approval.

Chair Owens opened public comment

Christopher Buckley, AAPPS, referenced an email he sent to the board. He presented a photograph of the ceiling that may assist the board's discussion.

Chair Owens, stated that the soft ceiling is significantly lower and it appears that the original ceiling material is probably gone. He mentioned the height of the doors bottom panel requiring that the height being close to the height of the storefront bulk head.

Staff confirmed that this item will be placed on the next agenda.

7E Historic Street Lights

Vice Chair Rauk motioned to continue item to the next board meeting.

Board member Lynch seconded the motion

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions.

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Board member Lynch mentioned the Veterans Affairs Letter that the board received and requested that staff give a presentation to the board.

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

11. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Jasper motioned to adjourn.

Vice Chair Rauk seconded the motion

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions