

APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY OF ALAMEDA HISTORICAL ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2016

1. CONVENE

Chair Owens called meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Owens, Vice-Chair Rauk, Board Members Chan, Piziali and Vella

3. MINUTES

3-A 2016-2447

Draft Meeting Minutes - September 3, 2015

Chair Owens said that he reviewed the minutes and that they looked like a good set of minutes.

Board Member Piziali made a motion to approve the minutes. Board Member Vella seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

3-B 2016-2448

Draft Meeting Minutes - November 5, 2015

Chair Owens said the meeting consisted largely of a presentation and the minutes seemed adequate.

Vice-Chair Rauk made a motion to approve the minutes. Board Member Piziali seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

4. AGENDA CHANGES AND DISCUSSION

None

5. ORAL COMMUNICATION

None

6. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

6-A 2016-2452

Certified Local Government Program -- 2014-2015 Annual Report

Alan Tai, Planning Services Coordinator, presented the report to the board. The item can be found at:

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2540983&GUID=A076DE1D-D275-4845-8A8E-940B0795233D>

Chair Owens asked if the report had been submitted to the state.

Staff Member Tai indicated that it had not and the deadline was in the next week.

Chair Owens asked if there were any planned educational activities for Board Members in the coming year.

Staff Member Tai said there would be a conference upcoming in San Francisco and that more information would be coming soon.

7. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

7-A 2016-2449

Historical Advisory Board Workshop on Alameda Point Site A Design Review for Block Eleven Architectural Design and adjacent Waterfront Street Design and Waterfront Park

Andrew Thomas, Assistant Community Development Director, introduced the item before the project applicant gave a presentation. The item can be found at:

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2540981&GUID=5D89E0E8-7BFD-43DC-AB0E-5EE441660524>

Chair Owens asked what would happen with the existing paving materials from the taxiway.

April Phillips, project architect for the Waterfront Park, explained their approach to handling the demolished paving materials through recycling and reuse attempts while meeting their sea level rise mitigation requirements.

Vice-Chair Rauk asked where the ADA access would be in the park plans.

Ms. Phillips explained where the gently sloped ramps down to the waterfront would be.

Chair Owens asked about the anticipated sizes of the mature trees.

Ms. Phillips explained that they are developing their landscape choices and that Mexican Fan Palms and Ginkgoes are under consideration.

Chair Owens asked how the drainage would function with the sea level rise protection improvements.

Ms. Phillips showed on the images where different flows would go.

Chair Owens asked what options there were if sea level rise were more than 24 inches.

Joe Ernst, project applicant, explained that the berm would be engineered to be able to be built up higher if that became necessary.

Chair Owens asked if the city was working on addressing sea level rise throughout the island which would be necessary for this area's defenses to be functional.

Staff Member Thomas highlighted the importance of the issue for the city and different elements of various planning efforts that are attempting to address the issue in a piecemeal fashion.

Board Member Vella asked if the city has been working with the Port of Oakland on protecting shared areas along the estuary.

Staff Member Thomas explained the discussions with the Port on how they can work together to access funds to help address the issue.

Chair Owens asked what would be done with the large amount of concrete removed from the taxiway.

Ms. Phillips explained their desire to reuse as much as possible on the site with creative elements. She said it will be part of their waste management plan.

Board Member Vella asked how the sewage line removal and upgrades would affect storm water drainage for the rest of the point.

Mr. Ernst explained the upgrades in size and the flap gates that would be added to try and address problems that have been happening.

Steve Israel, BAR Architects, gave the Block 11 portion of the presentation.

Vice-Chair Rauk asked how drivers would know which side of the road to drive on.

Mr. Ernst explained the feedback that Planning Board has given to make sure the space indicates that it is shared by all users and not to favor drivers with too many visual cues.

Chair Owens asked if the city would be the owner of the road.

Staff Member Thomas explained that it would be a city owned street and that many people are looking at it to make sure they get it right. He said it would be unlike anything else in the city.

Vice-Chair Rauk brought up the idea of a courtesy dock for larger sailboats that would like to visit the area.

Board Member Piziali asked if there would be any parking in the shared plaza.

Mr. Israel explained that there would be parallel parking in that zone.

Board Member Vella asked where the elevated roadway platform would end.

Mr. Israel explained that decision is still being worked out. Board Member Vella compared the space and traffic calming effects favorably to Santana Row in San Jose. She said she was concerned about creating a large, empty wind tunnel, however.

Board Member Vella asked about the tree choices around the building.

The landscape architect explained that they are still working with the horticulturalist to see what would work best with the soil and wind conditions.

Chair Owens asked about the height being above 65 feet.

Mr. Israel explained the development agreement exception that allows them to go over for "exceptional architecture." He said the high retail spaces pushed the building higher.

Board Member Vella said she has no problem with the height exception in this location, but that it should be the exception and not the norm.

Chair Owens asked how the loading function would work.

Mr. Israel showed on the plans where the loading activity would take place.

Chair Owens asked why there is only one elevator on the east lobby which appears to serve more units.

Mr. Israel said it was debated and that much of the activity will be focused on the west side of the building and the client wanted the emphasis to be on the west side.

Chair Owens opened the public hearing.

Steve Aced asked about the material used on the surface of the west facing rounded end of the building.

Mr. Israel explained that it was going to be as glassy and transparent as possible while making sure they meet their efficiency and LEED Gold standards.

Chair Owens closed the public hearing.

7-B 2016-2450

Historical Advisory Board Meeting Schedule 2016

Alan Tai introduced the item. He noted that the City Council was planning to take their slot for the February 4th meeting, and that they currently have no items for that date and it would be cancelled.

Vice-Chair Rauk made a motion to accept the meeting schedule for 2016. Board Member Vella seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

7-C 2016-2451

Board Elections

Vice-Chair Rauk made a motion to keep Chair Owens as chair. Board Member Piziali offered to amend the motion to also keep Vice-Chair Rauk in the position of vice-chair. The amendment was accepted. The motion passed 5-0.

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

None

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Staff Member Tai said the California Preservation Foundation conference would be held at the Presidio in San Francisco this year and they would be working to send board members. The conference will be from April 16-20.

Staff Member Tai said they would also be looking to do more presentations for board training and public education at their meetings.

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Vella made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chair Rauk seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.