

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF ALAMEDA HISTORICAL ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, July 5, 2012

1. CONVENE 7:00P.M.

2. ROLL CALL Present: Chair Owens, Board members Hoffman, Jasper, and Lynch
Absent: Vice Chair Rauk

3. MINUTES

3A. Minutes from 3-1-12

3B. Minutes from 4-5-12

Board member Lynch motioned to continue the minutes of the 3/1/12 and 4/5/12 meetings.

Board member Hoffman seconded the motion

Motion carried 4-0, no abstentions

4. AGENDA CHANGES AND DISCUSSIONS

NONE

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Christopher Buckley, resident, informed the Board of the Design Review and Variance application for a pre-1942 building at 707 Haight Avenue that the Planning Board will review on Monday, July 9. He said the demolition appears to exceed the 30 percent demolition threshold. He also stated that the School District has proposed a partial retrofit on the Central and East buildings of Historic Alameda High School.

Chair Owens stated that the Historic Alameda High School is a City Monument and requested guidance from staff and the City Attorney regarding the status and permit/approval process. He stated that the Board may want to comment to the School District. He also stated since the building is subject to CEQA, and asked who was responsible for ensuring compliance with CEQA guidelines.

Mr. Thomas responded that the School District is responsible for ensuring CEQA compliance.

Mr. Thomas stated that staff will contact the School District and schedule a Public Hearing.

6. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Owens acknowledged receipt of email from the Alameda Architectural Preservations Society

7. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

7.A. 2900 Main Street - Certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) and adoption of a Certificate of Approval for the Demolition of the Todd Shipyard Crane

Andrew Thomas, Planning Services Manager, gave a brief presentation.

Board member Lynch asked how much it would cost to remove the crane and who would pay for the removal.

Mr. Thomas stated that the City and the Water Transportation Authority will pay for the removal of the crane.

Chair Owens opened public comment.

Gary McAfee, stated that the City imposed risk by putting the ferry terminal next to the crane. He asked if the City has considered removing just the crane head and placing it next to the crane; it then could be replaced after the earthquake.

Mike Henneberry, resident, said that the crane and the Sawtooth building make a valuable skyline worth saving. He stated that this is an opportunity for a public-private partnership. He suggested that the City use this as an opportunity to build on the crane and reword the resolution to allow for an interested party to reconstruct the crane on site. He concluded by stating the City should not always be responsible for paying for these projects.

Chair Owens closed public comment.

Board member Lynch stated that she likes the idea of removing the cab and boom of the crane and placing it next to the crane. She stated she also likes the idea of using volunteers to assist with the project.

Chair Owens questioned if a 45 day advertising notice was a sufficient amount of time for someone to express interest and move the crane.

Board member Hoffman stated that safety is the main concern and a 90-day notice would be sufficient. He stated that advertising notice should be national.

Chair Owens referred to comments made by John Cook from Circle Point stating that costs to preserve in place or relocate is over \$1 million and does not include

ongoing maintenance costs or pier repair, which is a significant amount of money for a volunteer group to get involved in.

Board member Hoffman suggested rewriting the draft resolution to remove the phrase “to a new location.”

Chair Owens stated that he does not want to remove the option to have the crane moved to another location and would like to keep the notification period at 45 days, which allows ample time for people to respond and show interest without having to commit to the project.

Board member Lynch stated that she would prefer a 90-day notice.

Board member Jasper stated that he doesn't think the crane will fall down and that City should give every opportunity for the crane to be preserved. He said the notice should be a minimum of 90 days.

Mr. Thomas clarified that the City will start to pursue a demolition permit/contract after the notification period has ceased, but the City can work on securing the required photography and oral history.

Board member Hoffman motioned to approve the draft resolution with conditions that the draft resolution be changed to increase the notification period to 90 days.

Board member Lynch requested that the motion be amended to include the removal of the word “Historical” from the phrase “Alameda Museum.”

Board member Jasper seconded the motion.

Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Board member Lynch reminded the Board about the Alameda Museum lecture series and pointed out that the July lecture is on the 125th anniversary of Alameda Municipal Power. She also presented the Board with a memo regarding the suggestion to change the tree section of the Ordinance to protect the street trees on Thompson Avenue.

Chair Owens stated that the protected trees should remain under the purview of the Historical Advisory Board. He inquired about the comments regarding the ordinances that were passed around to City staff.

Mr. Thomas stated that he will follow up with other departments regarding the ordinance comments and will report back to the board.

Chair Owens stated that he sent an email to staff stating that Habanas did not follow the conditions of approval for multiple issues; he requested an update from staff.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

11. ADJOURNMENT 8:53 p.m.

Board member Hoffman motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Board member Jasper seconded the motion.
Motion carried, 4-0; no abstentions.