



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Historical & Landmarks Commission

09/02/2021

6:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City of Santa Clara has implemented the following method for the public to participate remotely:

- Via Zoom:

- o <https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/97233262035> or

- o Phone: 1 (669) 900-6833

Webinar ID: 972 3326 2035

Public Comments prior to meeting may be submitted via email to PlanningPublicComment@santaclaraca.gov no later than noon on the day of the meeting. Clearly indicate the project address, meeting body, and meeting date in the email. Historical and Landmarks Commissioners and Staff Liaison will be participating remotely.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ZOOM WEBINAR:

Please follow the guidelines below when participating in a Zoom Webinar:

- The meeting will be recorded so you must choose 'continue' to accept and stay in the meeting.
- If there is an option to change the phone number to your name when you enter the meeting, please do so as your name will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
- Mute all other audio before speaking. Using multiple devices can cause an audio feedback.
- Use the raise your hand feature in Zoom when you would like to speak on an item and lower when finished speaking. Press *9 to raise your hand if you are calling in by phone only.
- Identify yourself by name before speaking on an item.
- Unmute when called on to speak and mute when done speaking. If there is background noise coming from a participant, they will be muted by the host. Press *6 if you are participating by phone to unmute.
- If you no longer wish to stay in the meeting once your item has been heard, you may leave the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Leung called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Present 6 - Commissioner Amy Kirby, Chair Patricia Leung, Vice Chair Ana Vargas-Smith, Commissioner Michael Celso, Commissioner Megan Swartzwelder, and Commissioner Kathleen Romano

CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Commissioner Romano, seconded by Commissioner Swartzwelder to approve the consent calendar with a modification to Item 1.A.

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Kirby, Chair Leung, Vice Chair Vargas-Smith, Commissioner Celso, Commissioner Swartzwelder, and Commissioner Romano

1.A [21-8081](#) Historical and Landmarks Commission Minutes of July 1, 2021

Recommendation: Approve the Historical and Landmarks Commission Minutes of July 1, 2021.

Chair Leung noted a minor change to be made on the July 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

1.B [21-8080](#) Historical and Landmarks Commission 2022 Calendar of Meetings

Recommendation: Approve the Historical and Landmarks Commission 2022 Calendar of Meetings.

1.C [21-1092](#) Informational Report on the Role of the HLC in CEQA Review

Recommendation: Note and file the informational report.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [21-865](#) Public Hearing: Significant Property Alteration (SPA) Permit to allow the replacement of all windows and interior reconfiguration of an existing single-family residence at 1511 Harrison Street (continued from the July 1, 2021 meeting)

Recommendation: Recommend that the Historical and Landmarks Commission finds that the proposed project located at 1511 Harrison Street retains the essential character defining elements that make it significant; that the proposed project does not destroy or have a significant adverse effect on the integrity of the designated property; that the alterations are compatible with the existing structure; and that the rehabilitation of the residence meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and recommend approval to the Director of Community Development, subject to the conditions of approval of the SPA permit.

Historical and Landmarks Staff Liaison/Senior Planner Rebecca Bustos provided a staff presentation. **Applicant Elias Cortez** spoke briefly regarding the project. There were no public speakers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vargas-Smith, seconded by Commissioner Celso to close public hearing.

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Kirby, Chair Leung, Vice Chair Vargas-Smith, Commissioner Celso, Commissioner Swartzwelder, and Commissioner Romano

The Commission voiced their support for the project and thanked the applicant for working with Staff and Advisors to revise the plans.

A motion was made by Commissioner Celso, seconded by Commissioner Vargas-Smith to approve staff recommendation.

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Kirby, Chair Leung, Vice Chair Vargas-Smith, Commissioner Celso, Commissioner Swartzwelder, and Commissioner Romano

3. [21-1093](#) Public Hearing: Consideration of an Environmental Impact Report for the demolition of historically significant properties and the new construction of a data center at 1200-1310 Memorex Drive (continued from the July 1, 2021 meeting)

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Historical and Landmarks Commission recommend that the City Council approve and certify the Environmental Impact Report for the proposed data center project at 1200-1310 Memorex Drive.

Commissioner Vargas-Smith recused herself from this item due to the proximity of her business to the project property.

Assistant Planner I Tiffany Vien and **Staff Liaison Rebecca Bustos** updated the Commission that public comments for this project were received from Bay Area Air Quality Management District. **Rob Morris, Skybox Development**, answered the Commission's questions regarding the project's timeline, alternatives, and plinths.

Public Speaker(s): Joe Martinez
James Klimowski

A motion was made by Commissioner Romano, seconded by Commissioner Swartzwelder to close public hearing.

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Kirby, Chair Leung, Commissioner Celso, Commissioner Swartzwelder, and Commissioner Romano

Recused: 1 - Vice Chair Vargas-Smith

Environmental Consultant Michael Lisenbee, David J. Powers and Associates, answered the Commission's clarifying questions regarding the language in the EIR and other historically significant resources. **Staff Liaison Rebecca Bustos** answered questions regarding historical resource designation requirements. The Commission discussed possible recommendations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Celso, seconded by Commissioner Kirby to approve staff recommendation with the added conditions that:

- 1) the Historical and Landmarks Commission Advisors review HABS documentation of recordation prior to the documentation of the demolition permit**
- 2) the applicant bring the plinths back to the Historical and Landmarks Commission at a later meeting date for review prior to the Certificate of Occupancy issuance**
- 3) The character-defining elements of the original structure are incorporated as much as possible into the new building**

Aye: 3 - Commissioner Kirby, Commissioner Celso, and Commissioner Swartzwelder

Nay: 2 - Chair Leung, and Commissioner Romano

Recused: 1 - Vice Chair Vargas-Smith

A motion was made by Commissioner Romano, seconded by Commissioner Celso to recommend that the City Council approve Preservation Alternative 1, Preservation Alternative - Retain Historic Resource. If another alternative is chosen, to recommend the following:

- 1) the Historical and Landmarks Commission Advisors review Historical Architectural Building Survey documentation of recordation prior to the documentation of the demolition permit**
- 2) the applicant bring the plinths back to the Historical and Landmarks Commission at a later meeting date for review prior to the Certificate of Occupancy issuance**
- 3) The character-defining elements of the original structure are incorporated as much as possible into the new building**

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Kirby, Chair Leung, Commissioner Celso, Commissioner Swartzwelder, and Commissioner Romano

Recused: 1 - Vice Chair Vargas-Smith

STAFF REPORT

1. Berryessa Adobe Maintenance

Staff Liaison Rebecca Bustos updated the Commission that **Architectural Advisor Craig Mineweaser** is continuing the research and condition assessment process.

2. Liaison Staffing Update

Staff Liaison Rebecca Bustos informed the Commission that she would be on leave until April 2022 and that **Associate Planner Jeff Schwilk** would be the **Interim Staff Liaison** during her absence.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

1. Subcommittee Reporting - 20 minutes

There were no subcommittee reports.

2. Board and Committee Assignments - 15 minutes

Board/Committee	Lead/Alternate
Santa Clara Arts and Historic Consortium	Leung / Romano
Historic Preservation Society of Santa Clara	Vargas-Smith / Leung
Old Quad Residents Association	Leung / Romano
Development Review Hearing	Romano / Vargas-Smith
Agnews Historic Cemetery Museum Committee	Kirby / Romano
BART/ High Speed Rail/ VTA BRT Committee	Vargas-Smith / Swartzwelder
Zoning Ordinance Update	Romano / Swartzwelder
El Camino Real Specific Plan Community Advisory Committee	Leung
Downtown Revitalization	Vargas-Smith / Romano

Commissioners reported on assignments.

3. Announcements and Other Items - 10 minutes

Commissioner Vargas-Smith invited the Commission to attend the annual Parade of Champions occurring on October 9, 2021. **Chair Leung** informed the Commission that the deadline to accept applications for the Historical and Landmarks Commissioner vacancy was on September 10, 2021.

4. Commissioner Travel and Training Requests - 10 minutes

Chair Leung encouraged the Commission to attend the webinars offered by the California Preservation Foundation.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Vargas-Smith, seconded by Commissioner Romano to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

The next regular scheduled meeting is on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 6 p.m.

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Kirby, Chair Leung, Vice Chair Vargas-Smith, Commissioner Celso, Commissioner Swartzwelder, and Commissioner Romano

The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitation period is specified by any other provision. Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. If a person wishes to challenge the nature of the above section in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Clara, at or prior to the meeting. In addition, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies.

If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

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