

FRESNO COUNTY HISTORICAL LANDMARKS & RECORDS
ADVISORY COMMISSION

March 14, 2019

4:00 PM

Betty Rodriguez Regional Library

3040 N. Cedar

Fresno, CA 93703

MINUTES

Members Present: Nick Yovino, Lou Catallo, Sue Loucks, Susan Pappas, Sharon Darnell, David Rodriguez, Allen Carden, Pat Hunter, Janice Stevens, Randy McFarland, Kenneth Zech, John Baltierra, and Deb Janzen.

Members Absent: James Kus, Nancy Enloe and John Holihan.

Staff: Karen Coletti

Members of the Public: Tejpal S. Baniwal and Gurbinder S. Dhaliwal

- 1) **Call to Order at 4:05 PM.**
- 2) **Welcome & Introductions.** Commission introduced themselves. New Commissioner Kenneth Zech introduced himself with brief background. He is a native of Reedley, CA. He went away to college and came back to teach at Reedley College for 40 years. He has been retired for 4 years. He is the founder of the Reedley Historical Society; attributes his love of history to his father. He sits on the board of the Reedley Historical Society, Board of Directors at Reedley College Foundation and volunteers for Donor Network West. He has also published 4 books.
- 3) **Adoption of Agenda.**
Commissioner McFarland moved to adopt agenda with change to 6) H: Second: **Commissioner Carden.** Passed unanimously.
- 4) **Approval of Minutes: January 10, 2019 – Commissioner Rodriguez** made motion to approve with correction and clarification on 6) H: Second: **Commissioner Pappas.** Passed unanimously.
- 5) **Public Comment. None.**
- 6) **Landmarks:**
 - A) **Inventory of Historic in Fresno County. (No Report)**
 - B) **Centennial Businesses:**
 - i) Building at 8695 Main St., San Joaquin was brought back, Tejpal Baniwal brought a picture. There have been several different businesses that had occupied it, before it was purchased to be used as a temple. He gave an update of how much research and work they have put into this application. They have worked with Kerman Library,

newspapers, as well as residents. Commission would like to have some interior pictures as well. Commission read over the narrative and requested some more informative information in the narrative. Commissioner Pappas and Mr. Bainiwal are going to do some more work on the narrative to give it more merit, and bring it back to our meeting in May for approval. There was clarification that we are working on designation of the building which has remained the same for the entire time of it standing.

C) **Centennial Communities:** None.

D) **Centennial Farms:** None.

E) **Centennial Schools:** None.

F) **Discussion of Threatened Landmarks in the County of Fresno:**

i) Merci Train Boxcar, Commissioner Stevens discussed the importance of keeping this in Fresno County as it was a gift to us. Discussion on where to look for help on this and Commissioners thought any of the Veteran groups would be a good place to start. Lorenzo Rios, from the Clovis Memorial Building has been notified by Commissioner Stevens and would like to help in finding a home for it as well. The Commission took emergency action and unanimously voted to allow Commissioner Stevens to represent the Commission in voicing opposition to moving the Boxcar.

G) **Discussion of Potential Landmarks in the County of Fresno.**

i) Laton Library was mentioned and what a beautiful building it was. Karen will check on May meeting there as well as a tour.

H) **Signage Committee.**

i) Discussion and Necessary Action

(1) There was clarification on who had volunteered for the Signage Committee subcommittee. It will be Commissioner McFarland, Commissioner Stevens and Commissioner Hunter in charge.

I) **Media Releases:** None.

J) **Website.**

i) Commissioner Pappas reported that the committee had met with the CAO. He was very pleased with the progress made; he authorized placing the County logo on the website. He was going to facilitate the \$200.00 cost. It is all done but not published yet, it will be independent with a link.

7) **Reports and Administrative Items.**

A) **Chairman's Report**

i) Chairman Yovino will attempt to schedule a meeting and tour of China Town still. Our second choice will be Laton Library.

B) **Secretary's Report** – Discussion and Necessary Action. (*Coletti*)

i) Everyone is in good standing on attendance.

ii) Roster has been updated and correction to John Baltierra email and will send corrected version email.

C) New Business

- i) Commissioner Pappas, working on archiving applications there are many dead applications from the 80's that have some really good information, but were not finished. Commissioner Pappas also clean up files, with minutes and agendas.

8) Commission Report: Commissioner Carden spoke of his newest book about Abraham Lincoln's secretary. It is "*John George Nicolay – The Man in Lincoln's Shadow.*" It is scheduled to be published in late June or early July. There has never been much written about him.

9) Adjournment: 5:19 PM Motion to Adjourn Commissioner Loucks Second: Commissioner Baltierra.

Future Meetings		
May 9 th China Town or Laton Library	4:00 PM	China Town or Laton Library
September 12 th	4:00 PM	TBD
November 14 th	4:00 PM	TBD

Reoccurring Agenda Items	
Building at 8695 Main St., San Joaquin	Chairman Yovino
Website	Commissioner Pappas