



**FRESNO COUNTY HISTORICAL LANDMARKS & RECORDS
ADVISORY COMMISSION**

September 8, 2022
Betty Rodriguez
3040 N. Cedar
Fresno, CA 93703



MINUTES

Members Present: David Rodriguez, Dr. Allen Carden, Sue Loucks, Dr. James Kus, Nick Yovino, Kenneth Zech, Randy McFarland, Pat Hunter, Sharon Darnell, Lou Catallo, Dr. Susan Pappas, and James Sponsler.

Members Absent: Paula Lloyd, John Houlihan, Blake Zante, and John Baltierra.

Staff: Raman Bath, (County Librarian) and Karen Coletti, (Secretary).

Members of the Public: None.

1) Call to Order at 4:03 PM Rodriguez, Chairman.

2) Welcome & Introductions – No introductions.

3) Adoption of Agenda.

a) Adopted draft agenda **Loucks; Second: McFarland.**
Passed Unanimously

4) Approval of Minutes.

a) Motion to approve minutes of May 12, 2022, **Pappas; Second: Carden.**
Passed Unanimously

5) Public Comment: None.

6) Landmarks.

a) Inventory of Historic Sites in Fresno County.

i) Commissioner Pappas presented handout on recognized historic sites the commission has applications for. It gave a breakdown on of all the applications approved by the Board of Supervisor. We have (222) Historical Places, (11) Centennial Businesses, (65) Centennial Communities, (16) Centennial Farms/Ranches, and (37) Centennial Schools. There appears to be 9 duplicate applications. The Jensen home, (6) Communities redesignated with first centennial community group, (1) Business, and (1) Farm/Residence. On Landmark recognition there is (77) Fresno City, (22) E Clampus Vitus, (26) California and (23) on the National list.

b) Historic Places – Discussion.

i) Commissioner Pappas provided the inventory of historic sites in Fresno County. The first 150 applications are very non-descript.

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Commissioner Pappas is currently working on updated and adding information and pictures.

c) Centennial Business – Discussion.

- i) Commissioner Sponsler is in the process of adding information on the Edison Social Club application per the commissioner's request. Dates and location need to be added to pictures. Commissioner Sponsler will bring back for approval in November.
- ii) Commissioner Yovino will follow up with Nic Azzaro, from San Francisco Floral to complete APN map and some narrative on the pictures. Commissioner Yovino will bring it back in November.

d) Centennial Communities – Discussion

- i) Commissioner Pappas gave handout on Fresno County Centennial Communities Program. Discussion on CDP's (a census designated place) and Unincorporated Communities, which in law an unincorporated area is a region of land that is not governed by its own local municipal corporation, but rather is administered as part of a larger administrative divisions, such as a township, parish, borough, county, city, canton, state, province, or country). The commission discussed Indian reservations as well as ghost towns and RR. There are some that are approaching 150 years at this point. The commission will form a sub-committee to work on centennial communities coming up, it will consist of Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner McFarland, Commissioner Loucks, who is interested in the Indian Reservations, and Chairman Rodriguez. Motion made to reactivate the Committee **McFarland;**
Second: Loucks.
Passed Unanimously.

e) Centennial Farms – None.

f) Centennial Schools – Discussion.

- i) Commissioner Darnell has been working on the Sierra High School application, with the help of Wes Qualls, a graduate from Sierra High School. This will be brought to the November meeting along with Wes Qualls who will give a presentation on the area.

g) Discussion on threatened landmarks in the County of Fresno.

- i) Commissioner Catallo reported on the Carnegie Library in Clovis, it is the only Carnegie Library left in Fresno County. A committee was formed, and they were to present to the Clovis City Council last week but due to a power outage the meeting was canceled. They are working on a historical survey being done on the property.

h) Discussion on potential landmarks in the County of Fresno.

- i) Commissioner Zech will bring an application for the Smiths Ferry Hotel in Reedley to the November meeting. Commissioner Hunter brought up the California Hotel will be a centennial business next year.

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- i) Media Releases – None.
- j) Website.
 - i) Commissioner Pappas will give update at November meeting.

7) Reports and Administrative items.

a) Chairman's Report

- i) Chairman Rodriguez, Commissioner Sponsler, and Robert Jeffers from Supervisor Brandau's office attended a Zoom meeting with the Fig Garden Homeowners Association on July 13th. The meeting was per the request of Supervisor Brandau. The HLRC submitted an application for Fig Garden to be designated a historical district back in 2010 and it was approved by the Board of Supervisors. This approval is only a ceremonial recognition and has no stipulations. The Fig Garden Homeowners Association is looking for the HLRC to be of assistance in getting an ordinance that has some guidelines on properties within the district. There was some discussion on trying to have something that would be able to encompass all 4 districts that have been approved by the Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Sponsler will do some research what other historical commissions do as far as regulations and ordinances, there will be an update at the November meeting.

b) Secretary's Report.

- i) Chairman Rodriguez will follow up with Commissioner Baltierra and see if he will be able to continue to serve on the commission.
- ii) Karen reminded everyone who will need to reapply for appointments expiring on January 3rd, 2023.

c) New Business.

- i) Discussion on plaques for Fresno County Landmarks. Commissioner Pappas passed out handouts, which outlined the purpose, criteria, as well as some displays of plaques that have been purchased by the applicants themselves. In the research Commissioner Pappas did she found no commissions that purchased plaques, the applicant has purchased their own. Commissioner Pappas had showed a variety of signs that have been placed and presented an application for a marker program that the commission would provide to the applicant at the time of the application to be approved and placed on the HLRC list. Motion made to move forward to pursue the application process for applications **Carden; Second: Catallo. Passed Unanimously**

8) Commission Reports

- i) Commissioner McFarland reported on the Fowler Improvement Association being restored with a grant that was retained for historic restoration. Commission discussed trying to have the November meeting there, he will follow up on meeting arrangements. Fowler is coming up on its centennial year.

9) Adjournment. Motion to adjourn McFarland; Second: Zech at 6:00 PM.

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Agenda Items for Next Meeting		
11/10/2022	Edison Social Club	Commissioner Sponsler
11/10/2022	San Francisco Floral	Commissioner Yovino
11/10/2022	Sierra High School	Commissioner Darnell
11/10/2022	Fig Garden Homeowners Association	Commissioner Sponsler

Future Meetings		
11/10/2022	4:00 PM	Fowler Library or Fowler Improvement Association

Requests for disability-related modification of accommodation needed in order to participate in the meeting must be made to the Commission Secretary at (559)600-6237 no later than 9:00 AM the day before the meeting.