

## Historical Landmarks & Records Advisory Commission

The regular meeting of the Historic Landmarks & Records Commission was held in the Sarah McCardle Room at the main library on September 14, 2006.

Members present: Peggy Bos, Virgil Ahlberg, Randy McFarland, Roger Taylor, Aileen Bos, Penny Raven, Cathy Rehart, James Kus, Karen Garrett, Nancy Enloe  
Members absent: Steve Barile, Don Shantz, Bud Olson  
Others present: Elida Mendoza, Caren Anderson, Karen Bosch Cobb, Consuelo Velasco

### AGENDA ITEMS

1. Chairman Randy McFarland called the meeting to order.
2. Welcome and Introductions: Introductions were held, and Mr. McFarland welcomed everyone.
3. Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was approved without change.
4. Approval of minutes: The May 11, 2006 minutes were approved as submitted.
5. Comments from the Public  
  
No comments.
6. Records

a. Records Approved as Recommended by Staff:

Per Fresno County Management Directive 430, Section 434.43 "The Commission may at its discretion delegate to its Secretary (County Librarian) the responsibility for review of certain classes of records and for making recommendation as to their disposition." (Approved by the HLRC January 12, 2006.)

It was moved by Commissioner Bos, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the retention schedules below as recommended by staff for approval by the Board of Supervisors.

<b>Record Type</b>	<b>Schedule Number</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Recommend Commission Review</b>
a) Worker's Compensation Referrals & Criminal Files	1350.07.01	District Attorney	No
b) Capital Projects Records	1575.03.01	Public Works and Planning	No

At the May meeting there were questions about the codes on the Records Retention Schedules. Ms. Anderson directed Commissioners to the identification codes on the back of the form. She also said that items cannot be kept for less time than the government code specifies.

7. Landmarks

a) Inventory of Historic Sites in Fresno County

1) Pending Applications - Action Needed

a) Velasco House, 20931 S. Kingston, Laton

Mrs. Consuelo Velasco, property owner and applicant, was present to speak in support of the application. The house consists of about 1700 square feet, not including the tower. The tank is no longer on the property, and the house was moved 18 miles from its original location. The long term plan for the home is to make it a community center. In the interim, the house is being refurbished, and Mrs. Velasco said her daughter plans to live in the house.

Commissioner Taylor commented that the main criterion for historic preservation is the architecture, and he added that historic context is not important since the house was moved. Mrs. Velasco said the original roof is going to be replaced with a composition material, and Commissioner Taylor thought there may be a problem with not putting back a shake roof. The original roof was removed to comply with the law which states that structures over 18 feet high cannot be moved. Commissioners suggested using a composition material that looks like the shake material.

After further discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried to recommend placement of the Velasco House on the County's List of Historic Places with the condition that the information that is lacking is provided. Mrs. Velasco was specifically asked to provide the information requested in item number 20 in the application related to historical and/or architectural importance.

2) Applications Under Review

a) Hall of Records - The Hall of Records was approved for placement on the County's List of Historic Places on April 25, 2006. The application for the National Register of Historic Places was sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer on May 13, 2006, and it has since been returned to Commissioner Taylor for additional information and corrections. There were some minor typing errors and some requests for additional information. There was also a request for digital photos and additional photos of areas of the building referred to in the application for which photos were not provided.

3) Suggestions for other applications

a) Update on Del Rey Historic Properties - Commissioner Taylor is making progress. He has accumulated maps and is working on gathering information about property owners and businesses that operated in Del Rey in the 1920's and 1930's.

- b) Review samples of responses to proposed developments

Mrs. Bosch Cobb circulated samples of proposed land development projects forwarded for her to review as Secretary to the HLRC. The forms are routinely completed with the assistance of Bill Secrest, Jr.

- c) Inventory  
1) Review Cities & Discuss sites which should be added

Mrs. Bosch Cobb reviewed the list with the Commission, and they discussed the Academy Church. Commissioner McFarland said there was nothing that could preclude an application for the church even though the Academy Settlement is on the List. The Academy Cemetery is item #188 on the List. Mrs. Bosch Cobb said she wants to add addresses and APNs to the List in order to connect this information to properties when people get permits. She also wants this information available on GIS. Commissioner Rehart said that the Caldwell House in Centerville at one time was the site of a stagecoach stop. She suggested contacting Caltrans to see if there is any potential threat of demolition due to the Highway 180 realignment plans.

- d) Scheduling presentation from County staff about historic element and County General Plan

Chairman McFarland suggested a meeting with the staff who are coordinating this review to comment on the historic element.

- b) Centennial Farms - Commissioner Kus mentioned the Blasingame farm as a possible candidate for this list, and there was some discussion about the application process. Commissioner Raven suggested title companies as good sources for obtaining property information.

- 1) Farms currently on the List of Centennial Farms

- a) Harlan Ranch, Riverdale (Approved by Board of Supervisors 2/15/94)
- b) Schultz Ranch, Inc., Burrel (Approved by Board of Supervisors 2/15/94)
- c) Charles B. Drake Ranch, Squaw Valley (Approved by Board of Supervisors 5/24/94)
- d) Richard W. and Barbara J. Milton Farm, Reedley (Approved by Board of Supervisors 1/10/95)
- e) Missouri Hill Ranch, Fresno. (Approved by Board of Supervisors 11/14/95)
- f) Reese Davis Ranch, Selma (Approved by Board of Supervisors 3/5/96)
- g) Levis Ranch, Selma (Approved by Board of Supervisors 5/17/96)
- h) John G. Goode Ranch (Approved by Board of Supervisors 1/13/98)
- i) Kreyenhagen Ranch, Coalinga (Approved by Board of Supervisors 6/29/99)

- c) Centennial Businesses - No discussion.
- 1) Businesses currently on the List of Centennial Businesses
    - a) Fresno Ag (Approved by Board of Supervisors 7/30/02)
    - b) Baker, Manock & Jensen (Approved by Board of Supervisors 3/2/04)
    - c) Shepard, Shepard & Janian, Attorneys (Approved by Board of Supervisors 7/27/04)
    - d) Gottschalk's Inc. (Approved by Board of Supervisors 4/25/06)
  - 2) 100 year old businesses that received an application and have not yet responded
    - a) The Business Journal
    - b) Pacific Tent & Awning
    - c) Maxwell Studio
    - d) Simonian Farms (Clovis & Jensen, Fresno)
    - e) Electric Lab
    - f) Selma, Reedley, Sanger & Kingsburg papers
    - g) J. P. Jensen & Son
- d) Courthouse Park grounds markers/memorials and sculptures

- a) Update on Brochure of Courthouse Park

Mrs. Bosch Cobb distributed a draft brochure with some artwork samples. Every item listed in the brochure will have an accompanying art piece. Staff has been working with Ms. Gigi Gibbs from the tourism office, and the draft will also be sent to the County Administrative Officer for review. There were no objections, and Mrs. Bosch Cobb will continue to move this project forward.

- b) **Update on Research as of 5/11/06**

**Completed**

- Brotherhood memorial to Dowling, Greenberg, Malloch – 1968 (Margaret Murphy)
  - Fresno Memorial Plaque on history of County- 1954 (Bob Wash)
  - Flagpole (north) Homer Blevins chap, Disabled American Veterans – 1979 (Aileen Bos)
  - William Saroyan monument – 1988 (Ben Amirkhanian)
  - Statue of Dr. Chester Rowell – 1914 (Prudence Zalewski)
  - Virginianna Oak – Roger Taylor
  - Anna Woodward Memorial Fountain – Judy Ganulin
  - Flagpole (south) Dedicated to Haig Ohannesian – 1966 – Aileen Bos
  - David of Sassoun, Armenian Folk Hero - 1970 – Mabelle Selland
  - Bicentennial Oak - Penny Raven
  - Fresno County Peace Officer's Memorial – 1999 - Penny Raven
- **Pending**
- E. Clampus Vitus (original courthouse) – Randy McFarland

## HLRC

### September 14, 2006

- Replica of Toltec sculpture given to Fresno County by the Mexican state of Hidalgo – 1980 – James Kus
- Viva Liberation – 1949 - Steve Barile
  
- Hmong Memorial - 2005 - Robert Anderson, City of Fresno
- Checker Board - Roger Taylor

#### Unassigned

- The Earth is a Sculpture (working fountain)
  - Statue Honoring Ex Braceros 1942 – 1964 – 2002
  - Statue of Benito Juarez – 2003
  - Historical Society Monument
  - Martin Luther King Bust
  - Military Order of the Purple Heart
- e) Discussion of threatened buildings in downtown Fresno - No discussion.
- f) Discussion of threatened buildings in the County of Fresno - Discussed under item 7 c) 3) above.
8. Sesquicentennial Activities - Update
- a) HLRC Tours - The next tour will be a tour of the Clovis Historical Museum on Thursday, October 19, at 4 p.m. conducted by Commissioner Peg Bos. This tour will also include a walking tour of Clovis. Commissioners Bos and Raven will make arrangements for dinner after the tour at the Victorian Rose Cottage. This information will be sent to Mrs. Bosch Cobb's office to forward to the HLRC members and other guests.
9. Reports and Administrative Action Items
- a) Chairman's Report - Chairman McFarland announced that Commissioner Olson from has retired from his teaching position at Foothill Middle School and Commissioner Kus has also retired from his position at CSUF.
- b) Vice-Chairman's Report - No report.
- c) Secretary's Report
- 1) Sesquicentennial Programs - No further report.
  - 2) Sesquicentennial Activities
    - The Clovis field trip will be the last of the Sesquicentennial tours. Commissioners agreed to schedule a tour of the Westside next spring.
    - The parade was discussed, and Commissioner Taylor agreed to arrange for a couple of antique cars for members wishing to ride in the parade. People were asked to wear proper attire for the period. Commissioner Taylor said he will complete the entry application. Mrs. Bosch Cobb announced that the Library entered a book cart drill team in the parade.
    - The film will air next Sunday night. Commissioner Rehart said the film contains footage from the 1920's fair. The premier will be at the Edwards Theater; tickets are \$25 payable to the Historical Society. It will also air on September 24 on Channel 30, and eventually it will be on PBS.

## HLRC

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- The book will not be finished until April 19.
  - People who attended the Millerton Courthouse event and missed signing the book were given an opportunity to do so at this meeting.
  
  - Mrs. Bosch Cobb circulated photos of the Shaver crossing railroad. She said Ms. Dorinda Otto was a very gracious host.
- 3) Status of Vacancies - Three Commission appointed positions remain unfilled.
  - 4) County Archives - No report.
  - 5) State Form and our supplemental form as the new application form - Deferred until the meeting with the City.
  - 6) Joint Meeting - No discussion.
- d) Commissioners' Reports -
- Mrs. Bosch Cobb and Commissioner McFarland will review the attendance rules to decide if everyone is in compliance.
  - Commissioner Aileen Bos talked about the new home being built for veterans. She takes the minutes of the veterans meetings and they are looking forward to it.
10. Announcements
- The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 9, 2006. Location: Sunnyside Library if available.
11. Adjournment
- There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.