



MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CONFERENCE ROOM "A" — 2870 CLARK AVENUE
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 17, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Potter called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Chairman Potter, Vice Chairman Bacon, Commissioners Dixon and Jacquemain

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Sawyer

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Groves, Preservation Consultant Wilkman, Economic Development Specialist Grody

GUESTS: Mayor Kevin Bash, City Historian Snow

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Preservation Consultant Wilkman
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS: Mayor Bash presented some artifacts and a collection of historic photos, previously stored on his own property, which he feels should be maintained in a more secure location. Specifically, five reels of original film from Norco's grand opening and a digital master created from them, as well as a CD of the same images, are to be recorded as part of the Kevin Bash Collection but ultimately will be part of the Peter Clark Collection. Mayor Bash requested that these items be placed in the City vault, to which staff consented. In addition, the Mayor was turning over multiple CDs, containing 5,000 images collected from various museums and libraries in Southern California, to Preservation Consultant Wilkman for his research. Mayor Bash expressed an interest in the Commission drafting some handling protocols for valuable artifacts, and said he would be bringing some negatives of historic photographs in the near future, also for safekeeping in the vault.
5. READ BY THE CHAIR: "All discretionary actions before the Historic Preservation Commission are advisory in nature and final actions will be confirmed, modified or deleted by the City Council."
6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Commissioner Dixon moved to nominate Vice Chair Bacon for the office of Chairperson, which was seconded by current Chairperson Potter. After Ms. Bacon confirmed she was interested and had the time to dedicate to the office, a vote was taken and she was unanimously approved as the new Chairperson. Commissioner Jacquemain then nominated Mr. Potter for Vice Chair, which was seconded by Commissioner Dixon and approved unanimously. Newly elected Chairperson Bacon led the remainder of the meeting.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Dixon moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 3, 2012 and the special meeting of June 26, 2012, which was seconded by Vice Chairperson Potter. Motion passed 4-0.
8. HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY (Consultant Wilkman): Consultant Wilkman introduced the discussion on the Historic Resources Survey, which was reviewed in detail at the Commission's special meeting on June 26, 2012, and is now ready to be adopted by City Council, subject to any modifications requested by the Commission. Commissioner Jacquemain raised two issues that she believed required changes. First, she suggested the language regarding Native American inhabitants required some minor revisions. Second, she believed the proposed historic district identified in the Survey did not meet the standards of a bona fide historic district because it did not convey a sense of being in its original era due to modern intrusions (e.g. infrastructure) and modifications of historic structures. She insisted that the structures individually would still be protected due to their individual recognition by the Survey but the district was not cohesive enough to qualify. Chairperson Bacon stated that an urgency existed because of the likelihood of development in this area and that the designation of a district would have educational value for residents, reinforcing a spirit of preservation. Ultimately, City Manager Groves suggested removing the word "establishing" from the recommendation relating to the historic district, viewing it as too definitive, and replacing it with something along the lines of "further pursuing the evaluation" of said district. This satisfied Commissioner Jacquemain. Commissioner Potter moved that the Survey be recommended to City Council for adoption, subject to the above-referenced changes, which was seconded by Commissioner Dixon and approved 4-0.
9. UPDATE ON PHASE II CONTEXT STATEMENT (Consultant Wilkman): Mr. Wilkman reported that he is prepared to submit the Context Statement (for properties from 1946-1966) on Wednesday, July 18, which although technically two days late will likely be acceptable to the State. Photos will be submitted later, and due to Mr. Wilkman's impending surgery, he asked for volunteers to take digital photographs of various properties. Commissioner Dixon volunteered for the list of churches, Vice Chair Potter volunteered for horse trails, Chairperson Bacon and Commissioner Jacquemain volunteered to split the list of schools, and City Manager Groves volunteered staff for City parks. Mr. Wilkman established a deadline of August 15.
10. STATUS OF NORCO HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICES (City Manager Groves): The City Manager indicated the former Norco Historical Society offices and museum at the Norco Public Library have been requested by another non-profit agency. A lease agreement is being drafted but will ultimately require City Council approval. Any artifacts or documents currently on the premises will have to be relocated, although some could remain as exhibits, as long as ownership is clearly established.
11. ARCHIVING SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE (Vice Chair Potter): Vice Chair Potter distributed a copy of a letter to City of Corona Heritage Room Librarian Jennifer Marlatt, accepting her offer of space adjacent to the Corona Public Library parking garage for

archives and documents from Norco. He asked staff to revise it to reflect the signature of the new Chair, Su Bacon.

12. UPDATE ON NAVY RE-SURVEY OF NORCONIAN PROPERTY (Consultant Wilkman): Consultant Wilkman indicated the Navy is moving ahead with a redo of a survey to incorporate the full footprint that the base originally occupied.

13. COMMISSION MEMBER TRAINING (Consultant Wilkman): Mr. Wilkman reminded the Commissioners that they had until October to receive training at an authorized workshop. Commissioner Jacquemain suggested the Commission may be able to arrange something in-house, possibly inviting preservationists from neighboring communities. Mr. Wilkman volunteered to report back to members by July 27.

14. OTHER MATTERS

A. COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Commissioner Jacquemain reminded her colleagues that Ben Jenkins, the intern from UCR, wants to be active in the archiving process.

B. HISTORICAL PRESERVATION CONSULTANT

- Mr. Wilkman reported that the City did not get approved for funding for its latest CLG grant, which was earmarked for public outreach. City Manager Groves distributed copies of the rejection letter and recommended the City may be able to conduct many of the proposed activities in-house with an intern.

C. CITY HISTORIAN

- Mr. Snow indicated that he would like to continue his inventory of archival materials in the trailer, and also noted that he had a request for a copy of an old Norco News from a former writer. It was agreed he could locate the newspaper and make a copy for the writer, as well as proceed with more cataloguing with one of the Commissioners.

D. CITY MANAGER

- Following up on the discussion of the rejected CLG grant proposal, City Manager Groves recommended that at the next meeting some draft ideas for the public outreach activities contained in the proposal should be presented.
- She joined the Commissioners, City Historian and staff in wishing Mr. Wilkman a speedy recovery from his scheduled surgery.

15. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 9, 2012

16. ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Bacon adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.