



**ACTION MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CONFERENCE ROOM "A" – 2870 CLARK AVENUE
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2010**

1. CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Chair Dixon, Vice Chair Potter, Commission Members Austerman and Bacon.
3. STAFF PRESENT: Economic Development Director Oulman, City Manager Groves, Executive Secretary Boyce and Historic Preservation Consultant Wilkman.
4. GUESTS PRESENT: Connie Costley, City of Norco Resident
5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Bacon
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS: Ms. Costley stated she was attending the meeting because she was interested in the preservation of the Norconian and wanted to obtain information.
7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: M/S Potter/Bacon approving the November 2, 2009 minutes. Motion passed.
8. APPROVAL OF THE REVISED NORCONIAN PRESERVATION STRATEGIC PLAN: Consultant Wilkman and City Manager Groves briefed the Commission on the Special Meeting Study Session with City Council on December 14, 2009. Consultant Wilkman stated that the City Council favored the organizational strategy for the Norconian Preservation Strategic Plan (NPSP) with one change on the composition of the Committee. Council wanted one Historic Preservation Commissioner and one alternate in lieu of two Historic Preservation Commission Members.

City Manager Groves advised the Commission that City Council would be approving the organizational strategy for the NPSP and appointing two City Council Members to serve on the NPSP Committee at their January 20, 2010 Council meeting.

Discussion followed regarding the number of Historic Preservation Commissioners to recommend appointing to the Committee.

M/S Austerman/Bacon recommending approval of the organizational strategy for the Norconian Preservation Strategic Plan (NPSP) and appointment of two Historic Preservation Commissioners to the NPSP Committee. The motion passed.

9. PROGRESS REPORT ON PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT ZONE: City Manager Groves commended the Commission for their presence at the December 16, 2009 Public Hearing on the General Plan and Zone Code Amendments to add a new land use designation entitled Preservation and Development. The City Manager stated that the second reading and adoption of the Ordinance would be on January 20, 2010.
10. REPORT ON HISTORY OF NORCONIAN LAND TRANSFERS: Consultant Wilkman and Chair Dixon informed the Commission that they attended a meeting with Commander Lauper of the Navy, who is compiling an informational list of land transfers that have occurred on the Norconian property, as well as documenting the history of the property. Consultant Wilkman stated that the benefit of this will be to show what land was transferred, to whom, under what provisions and procedures and what the status is today. Once Commander Lauper's compilation is complete, it will be available for the Commission to review. Chair Dixon stated that the project should be done by July 2010.
11. CITY HISTORIAN'S REPORT: No report given. City Historian not present.
12. OTHER MATTERS:

Director Oulman briefed the Commission about annual training. He stated the following California Preservation Foundation (CPF) training options were available: the annual CPF Nevada County Conference in Nevada County, CA on May 12 – 15, 2010; the CPF La Jolla Cultural Landscapes and Historic American Landscapes Survey Training Workshop on January 20, 2010; and CPF Tustin National Register Standards and Historic Resource Survey Training Workshop on January 27 – 28, 2010. The Director said it was budgeted for each Commissioner to attend one training conference/workshop.

City Manager Groves stated that she sent a letter to the County of Riverside regarding the proposed placement of a County communication antenna tower on Beacon Hill as part of a 911 emergency response system where cell towers are currently located. City Manager Groves also stated that it is now on record that Beacon Hill has historic significance. Discussion followed about California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) statute and guidelines, and the County of Riverside possibly claiming an exemption to CEQA. Commissioner Austerman suggested that the City consult an attorney that specializes in CEQA if the County claims it is exempt from CEQA guidelines.

Chair Dixon stated that one of the Commission's goals should be to get the City's horse trails on the National Register for preservation. Discussion followed about surveying the trails, the survey strategy that was submitted to the State of California, whether the trails qualified for the National Register, qualifying the trails at a State or local level, the difference between the trails in the Norco Hills

and throughout the rest of the City, and applying for a CLG grant in 2010.

Chair Dixon expressed concern that the old school house (Community Center) had not been included in any previous historic resource survey. Consultant Wilkman stated that before the old school house could be demolished, the City would declare it had historical importance and would then be surveyed.

13. NEXT MEETING: February 1, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. in Conference Room A.
14. ADJOURNMENT: M/S Bacon/Austerman to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 p.m. Motion passed.

/mb-74710