

**CITY OF SONOMA
DESIGN REVIEW AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2015
Community Meeting Room, 177 First Street West, Sonoma, CA
MINUTES**

Chair Barnett called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Chair Barnett, Comms. Randolph, , Anderson, McDonald, Johnson,
Tippell
Absent:
Others Associate Planner Atkins, Planning Director Goodison, Administrative
Present: Assistant Morris

Chair Barnett stated that no new items would be heard after 10:30 p.m. unless the Design Review and Historic Preservation Commission so decides. Any decisions made tonight can be appealed within 15 days to the City Council. He reminded everyone to turn off cell phones and pagers.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Mary Martinez, resident, requested more specific Historic design guidelines for applicants to follow. She suggested a “certificate of appropriateness” standard in light of the recent webcam placed on a historic building directly across from the Plaza.

Patricia Cullinan, resident, agreed with Mary Martinez’s comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Comm. Randolph made a motion to approve the minutes of October 21, 2014 with a change noted and the minutes of December 16, 2014 as submitted. Comm. Johnson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

CHANGES TO AGENDA ORDER:

CORRESPONDENCE: Late mail was received on Item #1.

Item #1- Discussion Item- Consideration of a new Street Name Signage Replacement program.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Takasugi presented the staff report.

Comm. Anderson confirmed with staff that Caltrans will not reimburse the City for new sign costs.

Robert Sanders, Robert Sanders & Company, recommended sans sera font since it is easier to read. The new requirement is for reflectivity in the signage.

Chair Barnett liked the balance of new historical style fonts for continuity of the new signs.

Comm. Tippell questioned if Plaza signage would be differentiated.

Chair Barnett opened the item to public comment.

Robert Demler, resident, recommended bringing a historical perspective to the present by using the original street names around the Plaza to honor the past; thereby having dual names on the signage. He surveyed the League of Historic Preservation members and they supported.

Chair Barnett closed the item to public comment.

Comm. Johnson supported concept 1 B and suggested honoring the original street names on the new signage.

Comm. Tippell agreed with 1 B and preferred the serif font.

Comm. Randolph concurred with Comm. Tippell and recommended that the City Council explore the historic names for the new signage.

Comm. Anderson supported different signage in the historic Plaza district.

Planning Director Goodison said the item will go back to the City Council for final review.

Robert Sanders, Robert Sanders and Company, pointed out that 80% of all street signs have historic significance.

Chair Barnett agreed with his fellow Commissioners and supported dual names on the new signs and reflectivity feature. He valued the League of Historic Preservation Committee's input.

In summary, all commissioners favored the new historic sign program and viewed as an improvement for the community.

Comm. Randolph made a motion to recommend concept 1B with serif font with a condition of approval that the City Council consider additional recommendations by the League of Historic Preservation and citizens regarding adding dual names on Historic signs. If the City Council accepts this approach then the item will return to the DRHPC for review. Comm. Tippell seconded. The motion was unanimously adopted (5-0).

Item #2 – Consideration of a landscape plan for an 8-unit condominium development (Giannis Condominiums) at 19323 Sonoma Highway.

Applicant: Aristotle Giannis

Associate Planner Atkins presented the staff report.

Planning Director Goodison said the proposal is similar to the style.

Chair Barnett opened the item to public comment.

No public comment.

Chair Barnett closed the item to public comment.

Comm. Johnson supported planting trees for privacy screening.

Comms. Tippell, Randolph and Anderson concurred with Comm. Johnson and are satisfied with the tree selection.

Chair Barnett supported the landscape plan as proposed.

Comm. Tippell made a motion to approve the landscape plan as submitted. Comm. Randolph seconded. The motion was unanimously approved (5-0).

Item #3 – Consideration of a building elevations, exterior colors, materials, lighting, and landscaping for a 7-unit Planned Unit Development(Fifth Street West Homes) at 405 Fifth Street West.

Applicant: Altus Equity Group LP

Associated Planner Atkins presented the staff report.

Randy Figueiedo, Tierney/Figuerido Architects, eliminated one of the driveways and said there will be one single story home and four homes with court yards along the streets. There are different sizes for the upper level units. The colors will be a neutral palette.

Paul Harris, Imagine Landscape Architects, will implement a water efficient landscape plan and storm water mitigation plan.

Comm. Anderson inquired about the baton framework and felt the Planning Commission had reviewed many revisions of the site plan since the initial application.

Chair Barnett opened the item to public comment.

No public comment.

Chair Barnett closed the item to public comment.

Comm. Tippell preferred the Nantucket grey color over the yellow color.

Comm. Anderson agreed with Comm. Tippell's comments and supported the overall plan.

Comm. Johnson suggested different color variations.

Comm. Randolph and Chair Barnett agreed there should be alternative color options.

Randy Figueiedo, Tierney/Figuerido Architects, agreed with more color options.

Comm. Randolph made a motion approve as submitted with the condition that the applicant return to the DRHPC with additional color options (including rendered color samples). Comm. Anderson seconded. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Item #4- Discussion Item- Review of a draft Request for Proposals for the preparation of design guidelines for the Downtown District.

Planning Director Goodison presented the staff report.

Robert Demler, The League of Historic Preservation, said specific design guidelines are helpful and offered assistance.

Chair Barnett inquired about the timeline for developing the guidelines.

Planning Director Goodison responded it is estimated to take 8 months.

Chair Barnett is pleased there will be a historic document with high quality guidelines to honor the birthplace of California.

Comm. Randolph made a motion to endorse the request for proposals and forward to the City Council for direction on preparing the RFP guidelines. Comm. Johnson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved (5-0).

Commissioners Comments: Comm. Anderson is pleased with the progress of the Feed Store on West Spain Street.

Comments from the Audience:

Chair Barnett made a motion to adjourn at 8 p.m.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly and regularly adopted at a regular meeting of the Design Review and Historic Preservation Commission on the 17th day of May 2016.

Approved:

Cristina Morris, Administrative Assistant