

CITY OF COSTA MESA
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes for Thursday, September 10, 2015

PRESENT: Mary Ellen Goddard, Margaret Johnston, Dave Gardner, Gary Parkin, Christopher Ganiere, Karen McKenna-Juergens John McQueen and alternate Matthew Fletcher

ABSENT: Melinda Lowery, Terry Shaw, and George Nakai

STAFF PRESENT: Justin Martin

COUNCIL MEMBER: Sandra Genis (absent)

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Ganiere called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF August 13, 2015 meeting minutes

Mary Ellen made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Karen seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Subcommittee Reports

1. Old Newspaper Clipping Project
 - Mary Ellen let the group know that the newer computer is available at the Historical Society to scan old newspaper articles and advertisements into PDF form. John will visit and attempt to compile some for the next meeting. The sub-committee will present a few ideas of how to organize or present them.
2. Identify Costa Mesa Notable Residents
 - Karen and Gary presented bios for four (4) notables on which some editing was made by the committee. Dave will present the next two (2) bios next week. Karen suggested adding hyperlinks from the Notables page on any relevant topic, such as the Friday Afternoon Club, to more information elsewhere on the website, and vice versa.
3. Then and Now Historical Site Buildings
 - Staff reviewed the current estimates of \$440 for one plaque and \$320 for each when six (6) or more are ordered (plus tax and shipping). With the City's current

purchasing policy, it may be necessary to get two further quotes. Staff will research further.

4. Mills Act Review

- Matthew suggested listing the steps of approval process rather than the slightly confusing flow chart. The committee reminded one another that the chief criteria for consideration on the historic registry and therefore a candidate for Mills Act contract are: 50+ years old and of some architectural significance. Mary Ellen suggested a home near Heller Park that is of mid-century modern design and could qualify. Justin read a past letter from a Council member to the owners of 1952 Church St. alerting them to the possible savings via the Mills Act. The committee agreed that similar letters, likely written by the committee's council liaison, could be sent out to homes identified as possible candidates.

5. Costa Mesa Artifacts Research

- John let the committee know that Julie Le from Bowers Museum had not yet replied to his emails.

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- Karen visited the veterinarian office behind Dick Church's restaurant and they have a historic sign inside as well as many local historic photos. Mary Ellen suggested that the website could feature all local businesses who display historic photos, such as the car wash on Harbor and Baker. Mary Ellen mentioned the neighborhood ambassador program to encourage neighbors to donate old photos and artifacts, but also to help document local parades and events that happen each year.
- Chris spoke about sand painting and other projects done by the Scout troop that he is associated with.
- John reminded the committee that AAA has a historic license plate exhibit that is open to viewing by the public and that it is currently at the Huntington Beach AAA office.
- George inquired if all states have something similar to the Mills Act.
- Mary Ellen spoke about the Historical Society events on September 20 in celebration of their 50th anniversary.

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

- Justin spoke about the committee's account balance and also about the October Scarecrow and Pumpkin Festival.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 8, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. located in City Hall Conference Room 1A.