

CITY OF COSTA MESA
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
Minutes for Thursday, January 11, 2007

PRESENT: Dave Gardner, Mary Ellen Goddard, Patti Bass, Margaret Johnston,
Arthur Kinzli, John McQueen, Stephanie Campbell, Linda Feffer.

ABSENT: James Winter

GUESTS: Lisa McPherson, Recreation Supervisor
Paul Freeman, Segerstrom Home Ranch
Willa Bouwens-Killeen, Principal Planner City of Costa Mesa

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Dave Gardner at 5:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of minutes from the November meeting was delayed until the February 8th meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Segerstrom Historical Site

Paul Freeman stated that Segerstrom is required to preserve the historic house, barn, guest house and garage as well as a minimum of three acres. Segerstrom is currently asking for a nine month extension from the March 2007 deadline for turning the property over to the entity that will manage the historic site. The delay is influenced by two factors – a one year lease extension with the water district and varying issues within the Segerstrom family. If in the end the deadline is missed, the City can take the lead.

Another issue is financing. Segerstrom representatives have looked at the Bixby Ranch where that family donated \$7 million and the Irvine Ranch where they are building a replica of the original ranch house that will also be a library.

Paul told our committee that the intent is to preserve the structures and provide public access. The historic site will not be owned by the Segerstrom family but some members may continue involvement. There are also family collections of farm equipment, photos and books to be considered.

The original \$250,000 pledge by the family to preserve the farm buildings and property is just a drop in the bucket because the site will need dedicated revenue to insure long term success. Paul asked that any ideas be sent to him at pauldfreeman@southcoastplaza.com.

Huscroft House

Willa Bouwens-Killeen reported to the Committee that John Morehart has paid for a complete renovation of the Huscroft House and has requested that the home be placed on the City's local historic register. The request will go before the Planning Commission on January 22, 2007. Margaret

Johnston moved and Linda Feffer seconded a motion in favor of recommending that the Huscroft House be on the Costa Mesa Historic Register. The motion was so carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Story of Costa Mesa

John McQueen distributed proof copies of the completed Story of Costa Mesa to the Committee for review. He asked that everyone submit their edits and comments at the next meeting. We intend to print 10,000 copies for distribution to 3rd and 4th graders in the Newport Mesa District. Stephanie Campbell volunteered to do a copy edit and everyone complimented John and Mary Ellen for an excellent job.

Historic Murals

Jana is in the process of getting the mural project approved by the City.

Estancia Adobe Restoration

Jana is completing a proposal to hire a planner for the project. The request is 90% complete. No maintenance is currently being done on the adobe and this needs to happen before rains come again. Jana will check on keeping the adobe gates locked. Parks maintenance people replaced the weathered American flag.

First People

There is no progress at this time. Jana needs to figure out how to fund.

Historic Site Markers

Margy has not been able to work on the project in recent months but she is now ready to proceed. Jana researched plaque costs and an 18" diameter cast bronze with flat relief would cost \$700 to \$750 each. The Committee is considering eight to ten plaques in the first round. Jana feels that price should not be an obstacle for this project as we have \$30,000 in our account and can possibly find donors as well.

Jana also presented a sample of an image cast plaque that would be a great commemorative wall plaque. She will have prices for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COMMITTEE MEMBER

COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by Dave Gardner at 6:29 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Costa Mesa City Hall Conference Room 1A, February 8, 2007 at 5:30 pm.

*Respectfully submitted:
Patti Bass*