

Historical Landmarks & Records Advisory Commission

The regular meeting of the Historic Landmarks & Records Commission was held in the Sarah McCardle Room at the main library on May 11, 2006.

Members present: Virgil Ahlberg, Steve Barile, Aileen Bos, Nancy Enloe, Judy Ganulin, Karen Garrett, James Kus, Randy McFarland, Cathy Rehart, Penny Raven, Don Shantz, Roger Taylor

Members absent: Bud Olson

Others present: Elida Mendoza, Caren Anderson, Karen Bosch Cobb, Patricia Pinedo, Beth Bandy, Kathy McClue, Deborah Rey, Cruz Cuellar, Lloyd Schmidt, Richard Rey, Gil De La Pena, Claude Gasco, Sharon Hiigel

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Chairman Randy McFarland called the meeting to order.
2. Welcome and Introductions: Introductions were held, and Mr. McFarland welcomed Ms. Karen Garrett who was recently appointed to the Commission. Ms. Peggy Bos was also recently appointed, but she did not receive a meeting notice in time to attend this meeting.
3. Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was approved without change.
4. Approval of minutes of March 9, 2006 were approved as submitted.
5. Comments from the Public

No comments.
6. Records
Karen
 - a. Records Approved as Recommended by Staff:

Per Fresno County Management Directive 430, Section 434.43 "The Commission may at its discretion delegate to its Secretary (County Librarian) the responsibility for review of certain classes of records and for making recommendation as to their disposition." (Approved by the HLRC January 12, 2006.)

It was moved by Commissioner Kus, seconded by Commissioner Enloe, to approve the retention schedules below as recommended by staff for approval by the Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Bos asked about the employee benefit records. Ms. Anderson explained that these records are private personnel records and not for private viewing. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved.

Record Type	Schedule Number	Department	Recommend Commission Review
a. Personnel Records	9800.01.01	All County Departments	No
b. Administration Records	1675.06.01	Personnel	No
c. Classification Records	1675.07.01	Personnel	No
d. Employee Benefits	1675.01.01	Personnel	No
e. Employment Services Records	1675.02.01	Personnel	No
f. Labor Relations	1675.03.01	Personnel	No
g. Training Related Files/Databases	1675.05.01	Personnel	No

- b. Records discussed and approved individually.

Record Type	Schedule Number	Department	Recommend Commission Review
Notary Documents	1300.05.05	County Clerk/Registrar of Voters	Yes
<p>During the discussion of these records, Ms. McClue explained that notaries are required to file a notary bond and they are also required to keep journals of the documents they notarize. When they cease being notaries, they are required to file their records with the County Clerk.</p> <p>There was no further discussion and it was moved by Commissioner Kus, seconded by Commissioner Enloe, and carried to approve to approve this retention schedule as recommended by staff for approval by the Board of Supervisors.</p>			

7. Landmarks

a) Inventory of Historic Sites in Fresno County

1) Pending Applications - Action Needed

- a) Velasco House, 20931 S. Kingston, Laton
 This application was received in April. A letter was written to the owner, Mrs. Velasco, letting her know that a Commission member was reviewing the application. Chairman McFarland did not have time to follow up, and this item was continued to the next meeting.

2) Applications Under Review

- a) Hall of Records - Mrs. Bosch Cobb reported that on April 25, 2006 the Board of Supervisors approved placing the Hall of Records on the County's List of Historic Places and they also approved submittal of an application to the State of California to place the Hall on the National Register of Historic Places. The Board was very enthusiastic about supporting the applications, and Commissioner Taylor made a nice presentation. The application will be forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Office; this is the next step in the National Register application process.

- b) Pelolian Packing House - Approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 25, 2006.

3) Suggestions for other applications

- a) Update on Del Rey Historic Properties - Research on these properties is pending. Commissioner Taylor suggested fellow Commissioners drive to Del Rey to see some of the historic buildings in the area. He also reported that the Welch house is being restored.

- b) Inventory
- 1) Review Cities & Discuss sites which should be added -
Mrs. Bosch Cobb had asked the County Public Works Department to start sending the Commission information about proposed developments. The Library receives many applications with potential historic impact, and Mr. Secrest, Jr., who heads the California Room and Genealogy Department, regularly comments about the historic significance of the project areas. She added that he has a good sense of the history of the county. She offered to bring a sampling of what has been received and what the responses have been.

Commissioners were asked to review the cities and sites on this inventory and to consider if they would be interested in having a committee, individuals, or groups of commissioners look at specific parts of the county to identify historic properties or sites. Chairman McFarland said he considers downtown Selma as a good candidate for a historic district.

Commissioner Rehart asked if it would be possible to develop a historic preservation ordinance for the county, and Chairman McFarland suggested checking with County Counsel to be sure there are no problems with jurisdictions. Commissioner Barile noted there is already an element of preservation in the County General Plan; he will work with Mrs. Bosch Cobb to invite someone from Public Works to speak to the Commission about the General Plan.

Eileen Bos said she heard from the owners of the Basque Restaurant on F Street that they are worried their building is going to be taken away as a part of the redevelopment project. The restaurant it is on the Fresno County List of Historic Places.

- b) Centennial Farms - No report.

- 1) Farms currently on the List of Centennial Farms
 - a) Harlan Ranch, Riverdale (Approved by Board of Supervisors 2/15/94)
 - b) Schultz Ranch, Inc., Burrel (Approved by Board of Supervisors 2/15/94)
 - c) Charles B. Drake Ranch, Squaw Valley (Approved by Board of Supervisors 5/24/94)
 - d) Richard W. and Barbara J. Milton Farm, Reedley (Approved by Board of Supervisors 1/10/95)
 - e) Missouri Hill Ranch, Fresno. (Approved by Board of Supervisors 11/14/95)
 - f) Reese Davis Ranch, Selma (Approved by Board of Supervisors 3/5/96)
 - g) Levis Ranch, Selma (Approved by Board of Supervisors 5/17/96)
 - h) John G. Goode Ranch (Approved by Board of Supervisors 1/13/98)
 - i) Kreyenhagen Ranch, Coalinga (Approved by Board of Supervisors 6/29/99)

- c) Centennial Businesses
 - 1) Businesses currently on the List of Centennial Businesses
 - a) Fresno Ag (Approved by Board of Supervisors 7/30/02)
 - b) Baker, Manock & Jensen (Approved by Board of Supervisors 3/2/04)
 - c) Shepard, Shepard & Janian, Attorneys (Approved by Board of Supervisors 7/27/04)
 - d) Gottschalk's Inc. (Approved by Board of Supervisors 4/25/06)
 - 2) 100 year old businesses that received an application and have not yet responded
 - a) The Business Journal
 - b) Pacific Tent & Awning
 - c) Maxwell Studio
 - d) Simonian Farms (Clovis & Jensen, Fresno)
 - e) Electric Lab
 - f) Selma, Reedley, Sanger & Kingsburg papers
 - g) J. P. Jensen & Son

- d) Courthouse Park grounds markers/memorials and sculptures

- a) Update on Brochure of Courthouse Park

Mrs. Bosch Cobb has been working with Ms. Roberta Barton, Mr. Erik Vartiainen, and Commissioner Rehart to finalize the brochure.

- b) Monument for Military Order of the Purple Heart

Commissioners heard a presentation from Ms. Patricia Pinedo, assistant to Supervisor Henry Perea, on behalf of a group of veterans from the Military Order of the Purple Heart who are interested in installing a monument on the Courthouse Park grounds to honor veterans. The monument is already made and paid for. Supervisor Perea supports this proposal, and Ms. Pinedo said Mr. Janiels from the General Services department has no concerns about the location for placement. It will not be necessary to remove any trees for the installation. The group is also looking at the grounds of the Memorial Auditorium where the Legion of Valor Museum is located as their preferred site. Board of Supervisors Chairman, Phil Larson, is contacting the Legion of Valor Museum about this matter, and Ms. Jill Moffat is also assisting. During the discussion Commissioner Rehart said the landscape around the memorial building has historical significance. The veterans present spoke briefly about where they received their purple hearts, in Korea and Vietnam battles ranging from 1944 to 1971. They thanked Supervisor Perea for his support of the monument to recognize the veterans in the community.

It was moved by Commissioner Kus, seconded by Commissioner Raven, to recommend approval to place the monument in Courthouse Park if it is not approved by the City of Fresno for placement on the grounds of the Memorial Auditorium.

b) **Update on Research as of 5/11/06**

Completed

- Brotherhood memorial to Dowling, Greenberg, Malloch – 1968 (Margaret Murphy)
- Fresno Memorial Plaque on history of County- 1954 (Bob Wash)
- Flagpole (north) Homer Blevins chap, Disabled American Veterans – 1979 (Aileen Bos)
- William Saroyan monument – 1988 (Ben Amirkhanian)
- Statue of Dr. Chester Rowell – 1914 (Prudence Zalewski)
- Virginianna Oak – Roger Taylor
- Anna Woodward Memorial Fountain – Judy Ganulin
- Flagpole (south) Dedicated to Haig Ohannesian – 1966 – Aileen Bos
- David of Sassoun, Armenian Folk Hero - 1970 – Mabelle Selland
- Bicentennial Oak - Penny Raven
- Fresno County Peace Officer's Memorial – 1999 - Penny Raven

Pending

- E. Clampus Vitus (original courthouse) – Randy McFarland
- Replica of Toltec sculpture given to Fresno County by the Mexican state of Hidalgo – 1980 – James Kus
- Viva Liberation – 1949 - Steve Barile
- Hmong Memorial - 2005 - Robert Anderson, City of Fresno
- Checker Board - Roger Taylor

Unassigned

- The Earth is a Sculpture (working fountain)
- Statue Honoring Ex Braceros 1942 – 1964 – 2002
- Statue of Benito Juarez – 2003
- Historical Society Monument
- Martin Luther King Bust

- e) Discussion of threatened buildings in downtown Fresno - No discussion.
- f) Discussion of threatened buildings in the County of Fresno - No discussion.

8. Sesquicentennial Activities

- a) HLRC Tours - The Selma walking tour will be repeated on Saturday, May 13, with Chairman McFarland as the tour guide. Commissioner Kus commented that Chairman McFarland spoke to the archeological society at Fresno State, and he received very positive comments about his presentation.

The next meeting of the Commission will be for a field trip on Saturday, June 3, 8:30 a.m., beginning at the Tarpey Station in Clovis. Chairman McFarland discussed the itinerary for the day. People were asked to take a lunch. Mr. McFarland is also working on making arrangements for dinner and overnight lodging accommodations at Camp Sierra for anyone who is interested. Mrs. Bosch Cobb said the Sesquicentennial committee will want to put this information on their website.

Tours are scheduled on July 29 to the Converse Basin, possibly starting at the Bear Mountain Library in Squaw Valley, August 26 to the east side of the County, and October 12 to the Westside of the County. Tour details are to be confirmed by Mr. McFarland. Mrs. Bosch Cobb will make sure this information is on the Library's website.

b) Other

There was a Historical Society event at the Hallowell Education Center last Sunday. Commissioner Rehart said an exhibit on Millerton opened that day. She also reported that work is continuing on the film and book. A parade is being planned for the last Saturday in September. Sesquicentennial scripts are airing on KMJ Radio until the end of the year.

Commissioner Bos announced that she and her husband will be hosting a military reunion on the weekend of the parade.

9. Reports and Administrative Action Items

a) Chairman's Report - No report.

b) Vice-Chairman's Report - No report.

c) Secretary's Report

1) Sesquicentennial Programs - No further report.

2) Sesquicentennial Activities - Several Commissioners commented about the event at Millerton on April 17. Attendance was good in spite of windy, cool weather. Commissioner Rehart's presentation was commendable. State Park staff assisted, and Library staff were also thanked for helping out. Flowers were laid down in the water at sunset. Chairman McFarland delivered a wonderful speech followed by Supervisor Larson with a prayer. The Fresno Bee and Channel 30 covered the event. There was some discussion about whether the remarks and prayer were recorded, and someone thought a County schools staff person may have recorded it.

Commissioners Enloe and Raven purchased anniversary pins for fellow Commissioners who did not have an opportunity to purchase one.

Chairman McFarland said he was disappointed there was no coverage in the *Fresno Bee* about the event at the Amtrak station. He suggested that people who have contacts with the media should mention this.

Commissioner Taylor distributed information about local museums and tours. He encouraged people to take the tours to become more knowledgeable about local history. He volunteers at the Visitors Center located in the Fresno Water Tower.

3) Posting Landmarks List on Commission Website - Mrs. Bosch Cobb was interested in knowing if the Commissioners had any concerns about posting the Landmarks list on the Commission website. During the discussion, a point was made that the information is public since everyone on the list has gone through some public review process. Commissioners also agreed the information is meaningless without

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addresses. Mrs. Bosch Cobb will contact County Counsel about privacy concerns.

4) Ordinance Regarding Attendance of Members of Boards, Commissions, Committees and Councils Appointed by the Board of Supervisors - The Board of Supervisors is amending this ordinance by eliminating the section related to excused absences. Mrs. Bosch Cobb is to get clarification from County Counsel or information about the discussion at the Board meeting.

5) Status of Vacancies: There are several vacancies remaining. The most recent appointment was Ms. Peggy Bos. An application was sent to Ms. Sharon Hiigel who is interested in serving on the Commission

6) County Archives: Mrs. Bosch Cobb reported that the committee is continuing their work on developing recommendations concerning preservation of County records. They will be presenting recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on May 16.

Mrs. Bosch Cobb will ask Ms. Caren Anderson to provide information to the Commission regarding the legal codes referenced in the retention schedules.

7) State Form and our supplemental form as the new application form - Defer until the meeting with the City

8) Joint Meeting - No discussion.

d) Commissioners' Reports - No further comments.

10. Announcements

The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 14, 2006, Sarah McCardle Room, in the main library.

11. Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.