

**CITY OF SANTA MARIA
LANDMARK COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 13, 2009
City Hall Conference Room
4:00 p.m.**

1. **Call to Order:**

Committee chair Dick Hall called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:**

Dick Hall, Chair	Present
Jim O'Neill, Secretary	Present
Judi Kincaid	Absent
Marjorie Martin	Present
JoAnn Wilson	Absent

The Committee noted that Jim O'Neill's term ends with this meeting. The City had advertised the opening but had not received any applications; it will be re-advertised.

3. **Minutes:**

By unanimous consent, the minutes of the meeting held December 9, 2008 were approved as presented.

4. **Old Business:**

- a. **Mills Act:** Dick Hall spoke informally with Mayor Lavagnino about the possibility of implementing the Mills Act in the City of Santa Maria, and provided him with some materials containing basic information regarding the Act. The mayor will review the materials and discuss this further with Mr. Hall, who will report back at a future meeting.
- b. **Carnegie Library Landmark Designation:** Judi Kincaid is spearheading this project; in her absence, there was no report on this subject.
- c. **Santa Maria Valley Railroad Buildings:** The committee again discussed its desire to develop more attractive and more permanent exterior plaques or signs to be used when designating places of historical merit. JoAnn Wilson was working on a possible design but was absent. After the committee has a firm plan for these markers, it will further consider historical merit designation for some of the SMVRR buildings.
- d. **Amendment of Landmark Ordinance:** Dick Hall spoke further with Deputy City Attorney Wendy Stockton about the amendment to the landmark ordinance clarifying the permissible content of agreements with property owners. The amendment will be included in the annual technical amendments to the Santa Maria Municipal Code. First reading will be at the City Council meeting on January 20, with second reading and adoption expected at the February 3 Council meeting.

- e. **Library Kiosks:** Dick Hall has worked further with Assistant City Manager Rick Haydon and Deborah Hildinger, the library's graphic artist. The Carnegie Library panel design has been updated to include a photograph of the new library. The other panel is still under design.
- f. **Ethel Pope Auditorium:** Marjorie Martin spoke with Victor Tognazzini regarding renovation plans for this building. She and Mr. Tognazzini felt that it might be appropriate that any landmark designation be made to coincide with a "grand re-opening" event for the renovated auditorium. Ms. Martin and JoAnn Wilson will speak with Jeffrey Hearn, the high school district superintendent. They will report back at a future meeting.

5. **New Business:**

- a. **Historic Merit Markers:** The Committee addressed this in its discussion of the SMVRR buildings, noted above under "Old Business."
- b. **Property Owner's Interest in Landmark Designation:** The Committee received correspondence from the owner of a home on West Fesler Street, inquiring into landmark designation. Dick Hall is following up on this, but it appears that the property owner was under a misconception that the City would assist him with renovation costs if the property were declared a landmark. Mr. Hall noted that this is an example of the interest that could be sparked if the City were to adopt the Mills Act.

6. **Announcements:**

There were no announcements.

7. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES O'NEILL
Secretary