

City of Santa Maria
Landmark Committee
Minutes
July 10, 2012
Santa Maria Library, Study Room C
4:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:**

Committee Chair Jim Zemaitis called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:**

Tim Larson	Present
Ryan Fisher	Present
Jo Ann (Joey) Wilson, Secretary	Present
Edward (Jim) Zemaitis, Chair	Present

Guests:

Gary Nolan
Bertha E. Nolan
Richard Bienert
Gilbert Harper

3. **Minutes:** Jim Zemaitis moved to accept the minutes of June 12, 2012, seconded by Ryan Fisher.

Comments: There were no comments.

4. **Old Business:**

- a. Bill's Take-Out for a special designation: Guests Gary and Bertha E. Nolan were present to get more information on the proposed award of Object of Historical Merit for the building. After some explanation Chair Zemaitis asked for a vote from the committee to grant the award, which the committee passed unanimously. Discussion regarding plans for the award ceremony were discussed, which could include involvement with the Bent Axles Club cruising into the parking lot much like youth in the 1950's. The committee requested from the guests to send us any pictures they might have from that era, and we are targeting a date in September.
- b. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Hospital building for special designation: Ryan presented a copy of a letter written to Sr. Patricia Reyburn O.S.F. regarding our interest in presenting an award for the prominent building now being used by the order as a nursing and convalescent facility. This committee hopes to interest the Order of Sisters of St. Francis in accepting the terms required to present a city of Santa Maria Landmark award.
- c. Completion of survey of City Landmarks: Members were reminded to send the pictures taken of the Landmark plaques and surrounding area to Tim Larson, who will add them to the digital files being collected. Also, Jim will be sending copies to Mark Van De Kamp, Management Analyst II for the city. Conditions of some of the plaques were discussed and just a few might need some repair. The Santa Maria Inn plaque appears to have been painted, the Four Corners plaque mounting shows wear, and the rock on which the Buena Vista Park plaque is mounted has paint. There will be further discussion regarding preservation of the award plaques.

5. New Business:

- a. Palm Court Subdivision: Previously there had been an idea session, and one was that Palm Court is the first planned subdivision in the city, and still is unique in its' history and design. Chair Jim Zemaitis, playing "devil's advocate" brought forth many questions regarding our attempt to present an award. We regarded the traffic increase, possible personal intrusion, placement of the award, notices to the residents, etc. Jim will be talking to a city official to see if there is a possibility that this idea is acceptable.
- b. Foster Road Drag Strip: Jim passed a packet of information articles and pictures of the drag strip circa 1953. It was constructed on the south/eastern end of the former U.S. Air Force Base that was constructed in W.W. II. A continuance of Foster Road west of of HWY 135 (Broadway) now covers the site. The committee might consider some way to recognize it's existence and popularity.
- c. Visitors Gilbert Harper and friend Richard Bienert: Mr. Harper came specifically to request consideration of the multiple properties owned by his forbearers in the center of town. He provided many pictures and details of the property locations that eventually were sold for Mall development or personal changes in the family. He is interested in the family homestead that has been moved and refurbished. The committee agreed to continue consideration of his request.

- 6. Announcements:** The Santa Maria Times ran a front page article with pictures of the award ceremony at the Eagles Hall, formerly the Hancock School of Aeronautics Mess Hall. The article was written by Brian Bullock, and the committee voiced their appreciation for his efforts. Chair Zemaitis said he was pleasantly surprised that it made the front page, and is glad the newspaper continues to show interest in the local activities.

- 7. Adjournment:** Adjournment was called at 4:45 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE
August 14, 2012
4:00 p.m.
Library, Study Room C