

CITY OF SANTA MARIA
LANDMARK COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 12, 2013
Santa Maria Library, Study Room C
4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

2. ROLL CALL:

Edward "Jim" Zemaitis, Chair	Present
Ryan Fisher, Secretary	Present
Jo Ann "Joey" Wilson	Present
Michelle Huitron	Present
Sandra Valdez	Present

3. MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes of February 12, 2013 meeting, seconded by Joey Wilson and approved.

4. COMMUNICATION: None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Jim updated the committee on the progress with the Harper properties considered for special designation. There has been no progress with this issue. Sandra was asked to approach the current owners or occupants, who may be more responsive to a Spanish-speaking member of the committee.

B. Joey will continue to work on updates to the City's Objects of Historical Merit Webpage.

C. Michelle continues to meet with the leaders of the First United Methodist Church at 311 S. Broadway, to discuss the possibility of upgrading the status of the Church from an object of historical merit to landmark status. Jim offered to accompany Michelle to her next meeting with Pastor Mark and the church's business committee.

D. Joey reported no progress with special designation for the Ethel Pope Auditorium. The committee is awaiting permission from Superintendent Dr Mark Richardson to be put on the agenda to address the board.

E. Jim reported that the departure of Tim Larson has not affected the digitization of records process and he will re-organize the materials for referencing and consider possible means of storage.

F. Jim reports that the City Manager has requested committee recommendations for the designation for the former Foster Road Drag- Strip and Palm Court as a historic district. The possibility of an interpretive site was discussed for the Foster Road Drag-Strip site, and several ideas were explored.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Jim formally welcomed new member Sandra Valdez to the Landmark Committee and will provide information to both Sandra and Michelle regarding the City's Municipal Codes relating to the Committee's duties.

B. Jim reported that will continue to attempt to contact John Waller (a descendant of the original owner of the Waller Home) for a copy of the Object of Historical Merit Document that a previous committee awarded the home, but is now in Waller's possession. The committee also considered exploring the option of approaching the home's new owners to upgrade the property's designation to landmark status.

C. Jim reported that in a previous discussion with Dick Hall, the Landmark Committee should refrain from requesting plaques for Landmarks from the city until the City's financial situation stabilizes. Specifically, that no plaques be ordered at least until the city ends its furloughs of employees. Ryan mentioned the possibility of exploring other financial resources from the private sector for any future landmark designations under consideration, particularly those with close associations to the designated properties.

D. Members previously assigned landmarks to be inspected as part of the annual audit of city historic landmarks reported no major issues with the existing landmark plaques with the exception of moderate old paint/vandalism on the Buena Vista Park marker and tile damage to the pedestal holding the Four Corners marker.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

8. ADJOURNMENT: 4:59 P.M. by Jim Zemaitis

Respectfully Submitted by:

Secretary of the Landmark Committee