

CITY OF SANTA MARIA
LANDMARK COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 9, 2013
Santa Maria Library, Study Room C
4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Jim Zemaitis called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

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

3. MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2013 meeting by Joey; seconded by Sandra and approved.

4. COMMUNICATION:

- A. Report of annual landmark inspection has been forwarded to City Manager's office.
- B. The committee has been in contact with Dr. Mark Richardson, Superintendent of the SMJUHSD regarding possible special designation of the Ethel Pope Auditorium. Jim Zemaitis and Joey Wilson will meet with Dr. Richardson on April 10 to discuss the school district's concerns.
- C. John Waller has been unresponsive in attempts by Jim to contact him regarding the Object of Historical Merit (OHM) Document for the Waller House.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. There has been no response from the property owners regarding special designation of former Harper properties. Sandra will continue to make efforts to reach the property owners.
- B. Joey met with Mark Van De Kamp to discuss updating the City's Objects of Historical Merit Webpage. It was determined the Debbie Hildinger will need to be contacted to make changes to the layout so that the page can be easily printed into the format of a brochure.
- C. Michelle was not present, but had indicated to Ryan that she 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. According to Michelle, church committee members are under the impression that the building already has Landmark status. She will continue her efforts towards a Landmark designation.
- D. Joey reported that the SMJUHSD Superintendant Dr. Mark Richardson has concerns with special designation for the Ethel Pope Auditorium as the school undergoes a major building and renovation project. Those issues are to be addressed at the April 10

meeting when Joey and Jim meet with Dr. Richardson and Director of Support Services Gary Wuitschick. Ryan suggested that any dedication ceremony of the Ethel Pope Auditorium could be tied-in with completion of the planned construction and that the possibility of exploring social media sites to garner interest and raise money for any landmark plaque or marker.

E. Jim reported that the Palm Court subdivision for special designation is pending committee recommendations to the City Manager.

F. Jim has conducted a site evaluation for the possible location of a landmark plaque and interpretive site recognizing the former Foster Road Drag-Strip. Photographs of the Drag-Strip in operation were presented and the committee explored options for the site along Foster Road on city-owned land. Jim has been in contact with Jerry Gaskill, a former drag-strip participant and will gather more historical background information.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ryan suggested that as a tie-in to the former Foster Road Drag-Strip designation that the committee explores the possibility of designating the co-located Norden Bombsight vault (a Type II Vault) from the former Santa Maria Army Airfield. The location of the vault, in the same area of the drag-strip's original starting-line may lend itself to an additional marker recognizing the history of the airfield or the vaults. Ryan also suggested that all remaining vaults on airport property be granted special designated with the Foster Road example as the central example; especially considering that it is one of the most accessible to the public. Ryan will continue to research the historical background of the vaults.

B. Joey brought up the possibility of changing the material used in presentation certificates for Objects of Historical Merit to something more stable or permanent. Some ideas were anodized aluminum or plastics. Joey will explore costs and viability of various materials.

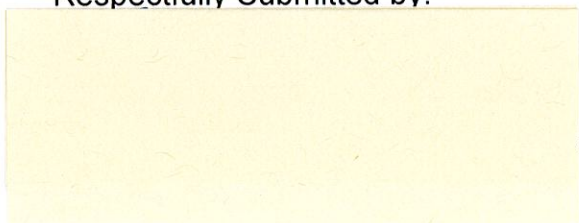
C. Jim has arranged to meet with the new owner of the Waller House (currently a designated OHM), to discuss the possibility of re-dedicating the property or upgrading to a landmark.

D. Sandra asked about the municipal code as it does not appear to address what happens to a designation –Landmark or OHM- when a property changes ownership. The committee will review the municipal codes and determine if clarification is required from the city attorney's office.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ryan announced that he will not be present at the next meeting on May 14 and that Michelle has agreed to handle the duties of the Secretary for that meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT: 5:05 P.M. by Jim Zemaitis

Respectfully Submitted by:



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