

CITY OF SANTA MARIA  
LANDMARK COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
August 13, 2013  
Santa Maria Library, Study Room B  
4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Committee Chair Edward 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
Sandra Valdez	Present
Michelle Huitron	Absent

3. MINUTES: Joey moved to approve the minutes of the July 9 meeting, seconded by Sandra.

4. COMMUNICATION:

- A. Jim was contacted by Mayor Alice Patino on July 31, regarding the intention of the city to seek the return of the two-part Bas relief of Columbus' ship *Santa Maria*— a designated Object of Historical Merit- currently located at the Wells Fargo Bank branch at 407 E. Main Street (originally part of the 1919 façade of the Bank of Santa Maria demolished in 1968). The Mayor is interested in seeing the reliefs moved to a more public location when the Wells Fargo branch undergoes an upcoming renovation. The committee will monitor the progress of any such move and provide input as requested by the Mayor or City Council.
- B. Joey has spoken with the current pastor of First United Methodist Church regarding how to move forward with any special designation. A sample introductory letter was provided to Joey by Jim at the meeting to be modified and forwarded to the church leadership. Jim added that Judge Jed Beebe has inquired about a stained-glass window at the church honoring the first Santa Marian killed in WWI.
- C. Ryan spoke with Mark van de Kamp of the City Manager's office regarding business cards and city email addresses for committee members. Mr. van de Kamp indicated that the city wants to control cards and does not provide such cards to unpaid committee members. He said that he would review the process with the planning commission as he understood the unique position Landmark Committee members face when interacting with the public.
- D. Sandra sent out an updated email contact list of all committee members to all committee members.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. There continue to be no new developments in the Palm Court Subdivision plan for special designation. Jim has prepared documents to be reviewed by the City Manager and City Attorney before the next meeting.
- B. The former Foster Road Drag Strip continues to be a priority for the committee and Jim will update members at the next meeting.
- C. Sandra reports that Mr. Hugo Casas, owner of one of the former Harper properties considered for special designation, is in the process of remodeling or renovating. Mr. Casas expressed that he will be more inclined to consider such designation when work is completed in the next month-and-a-half. The committee agreed to table all Harper property actions for three months and to be reviewed no sooner than the November meeting.
- D. Ryan has received no response from the correspondence sent to the airport board regarding the special designation of one or more Type II Norden Bombsite Vaults located on airport property.
- E. Ryan was unable to contact anyone from Guggia Enterprises to discuss the possibility of special designation for Landmark Square at 800 S. Broadway. Ryan will continue to determine if there is any interest in such a designation by property owners.
- F. While not in attendance, Michelle has suggested the committee abandon efforts to designate Tom's Take-Out. The committee discussed the issue and was unanimous in agreeing that while the location has been significant for many generations, the current condition and design of the structure do not warrant special designation.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. The committee again explored ideas regarding outreach related to the previous inquiries about business cards and city-assigned email addresses for members. Joey asked if it would be possible to create a logo specifically for the Landmark Committee that could be used instead of the City's logo. Sandra also asked if it would be possible to use City letterhead in correspondence with members of the public for official committee business. Ryan will contact Mark van de Kamp to find out if such an independent logo is permissible and if there is any news on email addresses.
- B. Ryan discussed an August 9, 2013 article in the Los Angeles Times regarding a developer attempting to reverse a Los Angeles City Council Decision to designate as a landmark the former site of a WWII Japanese detention camp in Tujunga Canyon. The article is important as it highlights some of the challenges committee members could face when working with members of the community towards special designation of properties.
- C. Joey reports that the local Kiwanis Club is considering a plan to renovate Buena Vista Park. It is unknown to what extent the organization intends to commit to the process, but the committee does not believe that any improvements will interfere with the Landmark status of the park as any work would need to be approved by the city.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jim expressed his appreciation to Ryan for acting as committee chair in his absence at the last meeting and for prompt submission of the August 13 agenda to the city.

8. ADJOURNMENT: 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: