



Community & Economic Development
Department

City of Arts & Innovation

October 25, 2016

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

City of Riverside
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522

SUBJECT: Activities of the Cultural Heritage Board

Dear: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

On behalf of the members of the Cultural Heritage Board, and as the Chair of the Board, I am pleased to report to you the activities of the Board and the tasks which lie ahead of us for the upcoming year.

The Board extends its thanks, as always, to the City Planning Staff and especially the Historic Preservation Staff who continue to carefully prepare the case reports and present them to the Board with an extremely high level of expertise and professionalism. Staff's observations are informed and fair, which assists the Board in making informed and fair decisions.

The Board has reviewed numerous cases since our last appearance before the Council in February, 2015, during the course of its public meeting process. The highlights of some of these cases, as well as ongoing projects with Historic Preservation Staff, include the following:

1. Approved Historic Designations for the following properties:
 - a. The Frank and Katherine Wells-Patsy O'Toole house (9-16-15)
 - b. The General Petroleum Service Station (10-21-15)
 - c. The Trujillo Adobe (10-21-15)
 - d. The Eugene and Mildred Best House (11-18-15)
 - e. The Willard and Elizabeth Window House (11-18-15)
 - f. The Camp Anza Officers' Club (6-15-16)
 - g. The Nielsen Pool House (7-20-16)
 - h. The American Legion post in Fairmount Park (7-20-16)
2. Heard several planning cases involving historic properties, including:
 - a. The old YMCA building on Jefferson Street;
 - b. Olivewood Memorial Park;
 - c. Grace Methodist Church;
 - d. The Mission Inn (Bella Trattoria);
 - e. Ruhnau and Clark building at 10th and Market; and,
 - f. Homes in the Arlington Park and Downtown Neighborhoods.

3. Added recognition of City Points of Cultural Interest (6-15-16)
 - a. Recognized Pachappa Camp/Dosan's Republic (Riverside's Koreatown) as a Point of Cultural Interest (6-15-16)
4. Heard several cases regarding non-conforming uses in historic districts, including non-conforming windows, fences, etc.
5. Participated in a Workshop regarding the Imperial Hardware Lofts project (2-18-15)
6. Held a training workshop on Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation by David Marshall (4-15-15)
7. Supported the "Share-Worthy Digital History and Storytelling Project" by Historic Preservation staff.
8. Supported and participated in the work of the Historic Preservation Fund Committee.
9. Elected Michelle Gilleece the Chair and Monty Van Wart the Vice Chair at 3-18-16 meeting
10. Elected Steve Lech the Chair and Monty Van Wart the Vice Chair at 3-16-16 meeting.

Riverside also continues to serve as an example of Best Practices for its successful Mills Act program and the outreach on the City's Public Access channel. Riverside's program is well-respected throughout the State.

Lastly, the Board thanks the City Council for their support and confidence in the Board's capability to promote Historic Preservation citywide and to continue to review projects that meet the requirements and standards set forth by Title 20 and the Citywide Historic District Design Guidelines. We look forward to continuing to serve you in the best way possible.

Sincerely,



Steve Lech
Chair, Cultural Heritage Board.