

HISTORIC SITES AND RECORDS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

FINAL MINUTES (APPROVED 9/9/24)

MAY 13, 2024

1. Call to order and Roll Call

Seeing a quorum, the regular meeting of the Historic Sites and Records Preservation Commission (HSRPC) was called to order by Vice Chair Janetta Phillips at 10:00 AM.

Commission members in attendance: Jeanetta Phillips, Clay River, Jazzmyn Gegere, Richard Westfall

Excused: Kathleen Leavitt, Letha Goger, Jacob Hawley

Planning Staff: Polina Pivak, Matt Hespenheide

Guests: None

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from March 11, 2024, were postponed to the next meeting due to lack of quorum of commissioners in attendance from previous meeting.

3. Public comment on non-agenda items:

There was no public comment received.

4. Review and recommend for action:

a.) Preliminary Discussion and Recommendation on Future Mariposa County Courthouse Interior Remodel Project Located at 5088 Bullion St. (APN 013-118-001) With Matt Hespenheide, County Engineer

Matt Hespenheide gave a presentation (see packet for presentation) on preliminary plans for a possible future interior remodel. He asked for this preliminary discussion before major planning work is done. He stated that the last large remodel occurred in the late 1980's. In 2017, the county did some exterior work. Other projects were done in 1930s, 1960s and 1980s. This remodel is being proposed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and court needs, however historical aspects are a major concern. The preliminary project description is to expand the clerk offices public counter space and utilize the small addition added from 1948; increase space in the Cashiers' office; expand the bathrooms; enlarge doorways; and paint and change lighting. Work may include removing two walls to open space (interior walls have been moved in past work).

Matt asked for the commission to consider the removal of the two interior walls and noted that a new courthouse is not feasible for the near future, thus the need for the project.

The Commission agreed that they are open to the changes but require further details.

Jeanetta Phillips recommended that the commission take a tour of the courthouse.

Polina Pivak pointed out that Public Works would need to file a formal design review application to be sure that the project complies with state and federal regulations.

Gegere asked for confirmation that a historic preservation specialist will be hired for the project. Hespenheide confirmed and stated that a formal application will be submitted and reviewed by HSRPC before proceeding with the project.

b.) Update on Changes to Historic Design Review Application No. 2023-090 for exterior Modifications Located at 5041 Highway 140 (APN 013-182-002), Jenni Kiser, applicant.

Staff gave a presentation (see packet).

A bee infestation was found when work began. Abatement work has started. Applicant is asking to use fire resistant hardboard that resembles historic siding, matches the existing siding in terms of style, and matches the base of the mural in terms of color, instead of the originally approved preservation project. The original siding is old growth redwood.

By a unanimous vote the HSPRC approved a motion made by Clay River with a second by Jazzmyn Gegere to accept the revision to the application as presented.

5. a.) Discussion and Action to select an HSRPC member to apply for appointment to the Mariposa Task Force.

Jeanetta Phillips stated she has applied for a position on the task force. There are open positions. Everyone is welcome to apply.

b.) HSRPC Project Updates:

I.) Mariposa County Historical Records Digitization Project Discussion and Potential Direction to Staff for Next Steps on Historical Records Digitization Project.

Staff gave a presentation (see packet).

The Mariposa County Museum and History Center is interested in entering into a contract for digitization of records with a third-party organization, FamilySearch. The County will need to be a part of the contract due to County records being included in the project description, therefore staff are working with the County Council. One of the main concerns with this project has been an ethical concern surrounding the digitization of Southern Sierra Miwuk records. FamilySearch stated that any records can be excluded from digitization. Jeanetta Phillips suggested this item be tabled for further discussion when more members are present.

II.) Gold Rush Design Review Guidelines

The revised document still needs to be presented and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

III.) Certified Local Government (CLG)

Staff is working on completing background work to become eligible for the designation.

IV.) HSRPC Work Plan Discussion, Planning and Direction for Next Steps by Commission and Staff to Accomplish Goals Established by Work Plan

The work plan still needs to be presented and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

V.) Historic Resource Inventory Database

No update, staff is still working on the project.

6. Information Items

Polina Pivak: Clean-up of Development Services Resources Library has started. The goal is to move historical records to the Mariposa Museum. Staff may ask for advice and help from HSRPC when making decisions. To be discussed in depth at future meeting.

7. Future Agenda Items: No discussion

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting of the HSRPC was adjourned by Vice Chair Janetta Phillips at 10:50 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Richard Westfall, Secretary