



FINAL MINUTES OF THE HISTORIC SITES AND RECORDS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

OCTOBER 21st, 2024 (Approved as Amended 12/09/24)

TIME: 10:00 A.M.
LOCATION: GOVERNMENT CENTER UPPER FLOOR
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS
5100 BULLION STREET, MARIPOSA

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 Chair Jacob Hawley at 10:01 a.m.

Commission members in attendance: Jacob Hawley, Jeanetta Philips, Letha Goger, Jazzmyn Gegere, Clay River, Richard Westfall

Excused: Kathleen Leavitt

Planning Staff: Polina Pivak, Ben Goger, Sarah Hughes

Guests: Vincent Kehoe, Mariposa County Assessor-Recorder; Danielle Bondshu, Clerk of the Board; Matt Johnson, Mariposa County Librarian; Paul Rogers, Yosemite National Park (YNP) Archivist; Kelsie, YNP Museum Registrar

2. Approval of Minutes

a. September 9, 2024, Meeting

The minutes of the September 9, 2024, HSRPC meeting were approved unanimously with corrections with a motion by Gegere and second by Goger.

Corrections: Add a letterhead to the minutes, correct statement made by Gegere on page three agenda item 4a. to, "digitization program should be aware of sensitivities to archaeological areas," adding Vincent Kehoe as presenter for agenda item 4a., correct "2002" agreement on page three item 5bi. to "2006" agreement, correct spelling of envision on four for agenda item 5bi., correct spelling of Letha Goger's name on page 3, and correct spelling of digitization on page four for agenda item 5bi.

b. September 13, 2024, Special Meeting

The minutes of the September 13, 2024, HSRPC special meeting were approved unanimously as presented with a motion by Goger and a second by Phillips.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

There was no public comment received.

4. Review and Recommend for Action

a. Discussion and Direction on Revised Agreement for Assessor's Office Maps Loan to National Park Service for Digitization Project for Records Preservation

Vince Kehoe presented the item and introduced Paul Rogers, the archivist for Yosemite National Park (YNP). Rogers stated that temporary conservators are coming for two months this winter. They will be able to complete a lot of map conservation, which includes flattening, flagging for any repairs, and digitization. Mariposa County will receive a copy of the map digitization files. The maps are currently at risk due to existing storage systems, and many do not have a backup copy.

Kehoe proposed limiting the loan agreement to about 100 maps at first as a test case. Jacob Hawley asked if the rest of the maps can be done once the conservators leave. Kehoe and Rogers affirmed and stated they would have to be completed at a later date. The maps can be housed at the National Park Service (NPS) unless they are requested by the County. The maps will be moved as little as possible and in groups of about 30 at a time. Maps will be tracked based on an inventory spreadsheet.

Ben Goger asked how maps with culturally significant areas will be handled. Rogers stated that these maps would not be available to the public. Pivak stated that Sarah Hughes, who previously worked to inventory all of the Assessor/Recorder maps, informed her that all of the maps are numbered Records of Surveys and recorded in the public record, and therefore must be available to the public by law. Kehoe affirmed and stated that generally cultural resources are not identified on Records of Surveys and Hughes stated she was not aware of any maps in the Assessor/Recorder's possession that showed cultural resources. Clay River requested that the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation have access to the digitized maps and that NPS prioritize following tribal consultation procedure. Letha Goger stated that this should be included in an addendum.

Letha Goger urged Kehoe and Rogers to consider adding an addendum to the loan agreement that includes specifications for conservation and digitization, so the process is clearly followed. Goger asked if it would be possible to obtain a printed copy of the digitized maps. Rogers stated that NPS can provide a master digital copy for the County to print themselves on a plotter. Any maps put on display by NPS will be digital copies of the maps.

Jazzmyn Gegere asked how future personnel, and superintendent would be made aware of the loan agreement and process. NPS representatives stated that the Yosemite National Park (YNP) needs to approve each loan agreement and keeps a file record of all agreements but cannot confirm that future NPS will keep the maps or request a change to the loan agreement, because it becomes storage capacity issue. HSRPC agreed that the maps should stay at YNP and not be moved to another location without permission from the County.

Danielle Bondshu stated that the Board of Supervisors would also need to approve of the loan agreement.

HSRPC agreed that the loan agreement with NPS needs to move forward to save the maps.

Ben Goger asked if the maps will be monetized. Kehoe stated that the County owns the maps, and this would have to be a Board of Supervisors decision.

Rogers stated that the loan agreement is for a period of 3 years and can be re-evaluated at the time of its expiration, however NPS can check in on progress with the County and HSRPC in early 2025.

HSRPC recommended that the BOS move forward with the loan agreement with a revision to the next evaluation date to early 2025, clarification that the maps shall not be moved to another location not authorized by the County, and an addendum with an inventory control log; protocol for transfer and return of maps; technical guidelines for digitization and preservation process; asset access, permission and uses; and special conservation statement for NPS to follow process for tribal resource consultation and display.

- b. **Historic Design Review Application No. 2024-115: Recommendation to the Planning Director on Signage located at 5040 Highway 140, (APN 013-181-015); Daniel Fournier, Applicant.**

Hughes presented the project.

Signage meets standards of the Historic Design Review Overlay. No new lighting. Project proposes to use existing lighting.

Phillips stated that the proposed signage has already been installed for 5 or 6 weeks prior to review by HSRPC.

By a unanimous vote, the HSRPC approved a motion by Goger with a second by Phillips to recommend that the Planning Director approve the application as presented.

5. Committee Business

- a. **Introduction and Discussion on National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant for Historic Preservation in the Present Tense**

Pivak presented the memo in the packet. The item will go for approval before the Board of Supervisors on December 3rd. The project will include engagement through the creation of an ad-hoc committee with members from HSRPC and the Creative Placemaking Strategy Advisory Committee and a contract with a historic preservationist.

- b. **Discussion and Potential Direction to Update HSRPC Bylaws**

- Potential Action to Include Commission Yearly Training Requirement, Clarify Commissioner Interest Group Representation, and Community Engagement Component for Compliance with Certified Local Government Requirements.

Pivak presented the potential edits to the HSRPC bylaws to comply with Certified Local Government (CLG) requirements.

Pivak stated that the only change to the HSRPC purpose is adding review authority within the California Environmental Quality Act process. Danielle Bondshu commented that the change in purpose of committee needs to be brought before BOS before any formal changes to the bylaws.

Background work for CLG eligibility is currently being done by staff. Letha Goger stated that she advises the committee to join the CLG.

Staff will return with edits after consulting with County Counsel.

c. **Update and Potential Direction on Next Steps to Address Exterior Modifications within the Historic Design Review District without HSRPC Review and Approval**

No update. Item to be continued at next meeting once the Planning Director meets with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss potential engagement for business owners regarding Historic Design Review Overlay requirements.

d. **HSRPC Project Updates:**

I. **Mariposa County Historical Digitization Project**

- Discussion and Potential Direction to Approve Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for Protection and Preservation of Mariposa County's Documentary Heritage

The ad-hoc committee for records preservation presented their recommendations from the agenda packet. Goger gave background information on her trip to the Sonoma County archives that informed some of the recommendations. The recommendations include a value statement and written proposal for records preservation.

HSRPC provided their consensus for staff to move forward to present the recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for their direction.

II. **Gold Rush Design Review Guidelines**

Pivak stated that the National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant Agreement/budget action will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval on December 3rd.

III. **Certified Local Government (CLG)**

No update.

IV. **HSRPC Work Plan**

Pivak stated that the work plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for direction on November 12th.

V. **Historic Resource Inventory Database**

No update.

6. **Informational Items**

None.

7. Future Agenda Items

HSRPC directed staff to include the following items on the agenda for the next meeting:

1. Discussion regarding signage within the Historic Design Review Overlay of the Mariposa Town Planning Area.
2. Discussion and Potential Direction to Update HSRPC Bylaws

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting of the HSRPC was adjourned by Chair Jacob Hawley at 11:53 a.m.

Submitted by,
Richard Westfall and Polina Pivak
Secretary HSPRC

