

Historic NBS Preservation Commission Meeting September 23, 2019

The meeting was called to order with five commissioners present: Lianne Bennett, Angeline Barretta-Herman, Johanna Mahood, Anna Omara, Marvin Owens, and Harriet Winokur.

City staff included: Planning Director Amye King, Assistant City Attorney Chris Ryan, Senior Planner Robert Mathen, and Board Secretary Stephanie Ferrara.

The August 12, 2019 minutes were approved.

Public Participation

Local archaeologist Rebecca Harris, director of the *Smyrna Archaeological Research Institute*, asked the commission whether anyone systematically tracks structure demolitions within our two historic districts. Through her research, Dr Harris discovered that 125 structures were officially nominated within the Coronado Beachside Historic District in 1997. At that time 66.4 percent of the 125 buildings were contributing historic structures. Today only 57.6 percent (87) of those 125 buildings remain. She has not yet done a similar study for the mainland NSB district.

Old Business

None

New Business

1. **CA-26-19: 114 Florida Avenue.** Demolition certificate request. Staff recommended a continuance on this item, so the owner's structural engineer can complete a report. **A motion to continue the matter to a future meeting passed unanimously.**

2. **CA-28-19: 118 Faulkner Street.** Full-roof replacement request. City staff recommended approval of the request on condition that any other exterior modification, demolition, or new construction comes before the board in the future, and there is compliance with any/all other applicable regulations. **The commission unanimously approved the certificate with the condition that any other exterior modifications must be brought before the commission.**

3. **CA-29-19: Old Fort Park Wall Repair.** The 1930s WPA-built wall is a local landmark protecting a midden and an historic structural foundation. The city now has funds for long-planned repairs and archaeological monitoring. The staff recommended approval of repairs with archaeological monitoring per city ordinances. Citizen Rebecca Harris asked what materials will be used and if the work will be contracted out. Planner Mathen said anchoring materials will be needed, and soil will be dug out to install anchoring. Planning Director King said there is currently one archaeologist on staff on a "revolving basis" and others may be available locally. Bidding is still out for this project. Mr. Mathen said the plan calls for repair a huge crack that has been in the wall at least 15 years. **The commission voted unanimously to issue a certificate of appropriateness for repairs with archaeological monitoring.**

Comments from Commission Members and City Staff

A. 306 Rush Street. Mr. Mathen said this property is within the historic district but is not a contributing structure. However, the city had previously advised the owner in regard to exterior

and interior rehabilitation projects that improved its appearance. He also complimented the owners on going beyond the requirements and in making improvements that were compatible with the neighborhood.

B. Other Comments.

Planning Director King referred to the HNSBPC's discussion on June 3rd regarding expanded consideration of preservation in city ordinances, reporting that the city commission will hold the first reading on the question in October.

Dr. Barretta-Herman said someone had asked her if the HNSBPC allowed hurricane impact windows; Mr. Mathen replied that the city would work with owners to keep a historic look with impact windows.

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm.