

MINUTES

VALLEJO ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE AND LANDMARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING – 6:30 P.M.

February 20, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair McDonald at 6:33 pm

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair McDonald, Vice-Chair Hall, Commissioners Adams, Riley, Chacon, and Quismorio.

Absent: Commissioner Sosa

Staff present: Planning Manager Orozco, Assistant City Attorney Zagaroli, Principal Planner Thacker, Assistant Planner Avila

4. CONSENT CALENDAR AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Principal Planner Thacker requested the Commission to amend the order of the Agenda to move item 9.A to be heard under item 5 (Report of the City Council Liaison).

Action: Moved by Commissioner Riley, seconded by Commissioner Adams, and carried unanimously (Absent – Sosa) to approve the February 20, 2025 – Regular Meeting Agenda, as amended.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

i. January 16, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Action: Moved by Commissioner Riley, seconded by Commissioner Vice-Chair Hall, to approve the January 16, 2025 - regular meeting minutes; with the following vote:

Vote:

AYES: Chair McDonald, Vice-Chair Hall, Commissioners Adams, Riley, and Chacon

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Sosa

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Quismorio

5. REPORT OF THE CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

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Vice-Mayor Bregenzer provided an update on the Herbert House and possible next steps by the City and requested input from the Commission.

Public Comment: Jimmy Ghenn and Anne Carr

The Commission provided input and discussed future options for the Herbert House for consideration by the City Council. Various Commissioners noted their concern with potentially relocating the house to a City-owned lot on Farragut Avenue due to the existing slope of the street and on-going issues of crime and vandalism in that area and stated that the Herbert House should not be moved from its current location and, that it should either be sold or leased as a commercial use or other community-oriented use.

6. COMMUNITY FORM – None

7. PUBLIC HEARING

A. 729 SANTA CLARA STREET - NEW SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE - CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS (COA24-0005), DEVELOPMENT REVIEW (DVR24-0030), LANDSCAPE REVIEW (LR24-0021), AND EXCEPTION PERMIT (EXC24-0015)

Assistant Planner Avila provided an overview of the project. Commissioners asked questions of staff. Chair McDonald opened the public hearing. There were no speakers. Chair McDonald closed the public hearing. The Commission deliberated the merits of the project, and a motion was made:

- 8. Action:** moved by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Riley, and carried with a 5-1 vote (Ayes – McDonald, Chacon, Adams, Quismorio, and Riley; No – Hall; Absent – Sosa) to find the project exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 (a) – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and adopt a resolution to approve Certificate of Appropriateness (COA24-0005), Development Review (DVR24-0030), Landscape Review (LR24-0021), and an Exception (EXC24-0015), based on the findings and conditions contained in the Resolution and make the following recommendations to consider – explore adding wood siding on the lower half of the residence in lieu of stucco.

9. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Principal Planner Thacker stated that staff received one email correspondence regarding the Herbert House prior to the meeting.

10. REGULAR REPORTS

A. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Principal Planner Thacker provided an update to the Commission that a project at 128 Carolina Street recently approved by the Commission was appealed and will be heard by the City Council on March 11th, and that an upcoming Certificate of Appropriateness for a new single-unit dwelling is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the Commission at the March 20, 2025 regular meeting.

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B. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None

C. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Riley asked staff for an update on the cause of the fire that recently occurred at 721 Alameda Street. Planning Manager Orozco indicated that staff did not know.

D. REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES

i. Records/Resources Subcommittee

Chair McDonald provided an update on a meeting with the Water Division and discussed potential options regarding the use, duplication, and preservation of historical water tap records held by the Water Division. Vice Chair Hall provided an update that the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum has agreed to store the water tap records.

ii. Goal Setting Subcommittee

Commissioner Chacon asked when the goal settings meeting for City Council will be held so the Commission can align with their goals once they are set.

iii. Review of Vallejo Municipal Code Chapter 16.614 – Architectural Heritage and Historic Preservation.

11. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

A. Potential Formation of Additional Subcommittees

- i. Possible AHLC workplan/budget request
- ii. Review of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards
- iii. Create a ministerial process for non-contributing homes.

B. Future Agenda Items

- i. Future Presentations

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Signed by:

Angela McDonald

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ANGELA MCDONALD, CHAIR

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ATTEST:

Signed by:

Robby Thacker

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ROBBY THACKER, SECRETARY

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