

SAN FRANCISCO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION



Meeting Minutes

REMOTE HEARING

via video and teleconferencing

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
12:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Black, Foley, Johns, Pearlman, So, Matsuda, Hyland
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT HYLAND AT 12:33 PM

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Deborah Landis, Katie Wilborn, Melanie Bishop, Justin Greving, Allison Vanderslice, Rich Hillis – Planning Director, Jonas P. Ionin – Commission Secretary

SPEAKER KEY:

- + indicates a speaker in support of an item;
- indicates a speaker in opposition to an item; and
- = indicates a neutral speaker or a speaker who did not indicate support or opposition.

A. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

SPEAKERS: None

B. DEPARTMENT MATTERS

1. Department Announcements

Rich Hillis, Planning Director:

Just quickly, good afternoon, Commissioners. I just wanted to let you know there was a recent Court of Appeals decision that upheld the City's decision to remove the Early Days Statue. Which I know many of you were involved in and sat on this Commission when you made the decision through a Certificate of Appropriateness and the CEQA findings. So, it was appealed as you know to the Board of Appeals and to a trial court in the Court of Appeals and they upheld the City's decision. So, happy to send that decision to you if you would like to see it.

Commissioner Black:

I would. Thank you.

Rich Hillis, Planning Director:

Okay. We'll send it out.

C. COMMISSION MATTERS

2. President's Report and Announcements

President Hyland:

So, Commissioners, we spoke about this last hearing. And Jonas and I have -- this is in regard to the Ohlone recognition. And so, what we are going to do, I'd like to -- the statement that is printed in our Agenda. And, I don't think I'm going to read this every hearing, but I would like to read it again, today just to put it on the record. And let the public know that it's on our agenda. And maybe what we will do is remind people occasionally of this. It will be in our Agenda ongoing. And maybe when we have agenda items that are relevant, we might want to speak it into the record. But the Board of Supervisors is reading this into the record every hearing. So, it may not be necessary for all Commissions to do this. But, I just wanted to do it once. This will be the first time since we've passed our resolution, our Equity resolution. And the statement is "The Historic Preservation Commission acknowledges that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone, who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost, nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the Ancestors, Elders, and Relatives of the Ramaytush Ohlone community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples". So that is all I have for my report.

3. Consideration of Adoption:

- [Draft Minutes for January 20, 2021](#)

SPEAKERS: None
ACTION: Adopted
AYES: Black, Foley, Johns, Pearlman, So, Matsuda, Hyland

4. Commission Comments & Questions

Commissioner Pearlman:

I wanted to make a comment and I'm going to read something about the school renaming that has been a hot topic. I'm sure many of you saw the articles in the paper about the Board of Ed. So, I wrote something out and I'll just read it into the record.

I want to extend my sadness, frustration, and a little bit of disgust to the Board of Education for its school renaming exercise. This exercise is one that takes political correctness to new highs. While there are certainly names that shouldn't be associated with the schools of our city due to past endeavors, the shoddy way the school names were selected -- or the schools were selected, and the lack of intellectually measured historical research renders this exercise nothing more than another joke told at the expense of San Francisco at conservative conferences or conventions. The shallow and flimsy research spared no name that according to the internet research of the Board and its emissaries, "Significantly diminished the opportunities of those amongst us to the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" as the board resolution put it. Never mind that the name of the man from whom the board borrowed that phrase, Thomas Jefferson, was deemed no longer suitable for attachment to one of the City's elementary schools. And even the [inaudible] emancipator, Abraham Lincoln, was like the average San Francisco Board member, imperfect, though he actually intervened to moderate the crimes against Native Americans, was cited in stripping his name from a high school. Even one example in [inaudible] life was enough to qualify for renaming rather than taking their life as a whole. I'll kind of skip down. But what a phenomenal teaching exercise this could have been. A teaching plan could have been fashioned for every San Francisco student to learn the lessons the renaming effort is hoping to provide. And how about learning about the fact that even our heroes are imperfect and are just human after all? And what about learning discernment that one minor episode of one's life, does not make up the sum total of who they are and what they have done. Maybe the students could decide if a small infraction is enough to demote their own school's namesake. For now, the students will only know Diane Feinstein's life story from an infinitesimal moment about a flag on City Hall Plaza. Or ultimately, Abraham Lincoln's life to San Francisco students will be summarized by the Native American men that were hanged in 1862. The Emancipation Proclamation, Gettysburg Address, what's that? Abraham who?

So, I would ask that our Commission, given that this is about deeply understood or lack thereof from the Board of Education historical information, that we come together and make a statement and that get something on record to address the school renaming. And I don't know if other people feel this way, but I was kind of appalled at some of the people who were considered, even names of places like Mission or Presidio, were deemed not worthy of being on the schools of San Francisco. So, it's kind of -- I'm frustrated, of course, because we have no jurisdiction or authority to do anything. But, I think it would be important for the HPC to make a public statement about this. Thank you.

President Hyland:

Okay. Thank you, Commissioner Pearlman. I think what we can do here is maybe put this on a future agenda. Let's check with the City Attorney. I see other Commissioners want to speak to this. But I'm not sure it's appropriate unless we're only talking about getting this on the agenda.

Jonas P. Ionin, Commission Secretary:

Right. I mean, I think at this point -- thank you for that Commissioner Pearlman. I will remind you that this conversation that looks to be forming, is not on today's agenda. And I would recommend that if the Commission, so desired to have a conversation on this, that we certainly add it to our next hearing on February 17th. Then the Commission can certainly have a robust conversation about what next steps this Commission can take.

Commissioner Pearlman:

Yes. That would be my request, thank you.

President Hyland:

Is that sufficient, Commissioner Johns?

Commissioner Johns:

Yes. That's what I was going to suggest.

Jonas P. Ionin, Commission Secretary:

Very good. Duly noted Commissioners.

D. REGULAR CALENDAR

5. [2020-010430CRV](#) (D. LANDIS: (628) 652-7256)
FY 2020-2021 PROPOSED DEPARTMENT BUDGET – Final review of the Department's **Revenue and Expenditure Budget** in FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023, including grants, proposed staffing, and proposed dates where budget items will be discussed during the budget process.

Preliminary Recommendation: Adopt a Recommendation for Approval

SPEAKERS: = Deborah Landis – Staff presentation
 = Rich Hillis – Staff report
 ACTION: Adopted a Recommendation for Approval
 AYES: Black, Foley, Johns, Pearlman, So, Matsuda, Hyland
 RESOLUTION: [1167](#)

- 6a. [2021-000331LBR](#) (K. WILBORN: (628) 652-7355)
250 NAPOLEON STREET – Located on the north side of Napoleon Street between Jerrold and Evans Avenues, Assessor's Block 4343, Lot 021 (District 10). Consideration of adoption of a resolution recommending Small Business Commission approval of a **Legacy Business Registry** application. AJC Auto Body has served San Francisco for 31 years. The Legacy Business Registry recognizes longstanding, community-serving businesses that are

valuable cultural assets to the City. In addition, the City intends that the Registry be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success. The subject business is within a PDR-2 (Production, Distribution, and Repair) and 65-J Height and Bulk District.

Preliminary Recommendation: Adopt a Recommendation for Approval

SPEAKERS: = Katie Wilborn – Staff report
 = Melanie Bishop – Staff report
 ACTION: Adopted a Recommendation for Approval
 AYES: Black, Foley, Johns, Pearlman, So, Matsuda, Hyland
 RESOLUTION: [1168](#)

- 6b. [2020-000330LBR](#) (M. BISHOP: (628) 652-7440)
[5166 3RD STREET](#) – Located on the west side of 3rd Street between Bayview and Thornton streets, Assessor’s Block 5358, Lot 016 (District 10). Consideration of adoption of a resolution recommending Small Business Commission approval of a **Legacy Business Registry** application. G. Mazzei & Son Hardware has served San Francisco for 84 years. The Legacy Business Registry recognizes longstanding, community-serving businesses that are valuable cultural assets to the City. In addition, the City intends that the Registry be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success. The subject business is within the Bayview NCD (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District and 40-X Height and Bulk District.
Preliminary Recommendation: Adopt a Recommendation for Approval

SPEAKERS: Same as item 6a.
 ACTION: Adopted a Recommendation for Approval
 AYES: Black, Foley, Johns, Pearlman, So, Matsuda, Hyland
 RESOLUTION: [1169](#)

7. [2019-022850ENV](#) (J. GREVING: (628)652-7553)
[1101-1123 SUTTER STREET](#) – Located on the southwest corner of Sutter Street and Larkin Street, Assessor’s Blocks 0692, Lot 001 and 019 (District 3). **Review and Comment** before the Historic Preservation Commission on the proposed preservation alternatives in advance of publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed project. The project proposes to demolish one of the two existing structures on the project site for the construction of 201 units. The site at 1101-1123 Sutter Street contains two historic resources for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project site is located within the Polk Street NCD (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District and 65-A TO 130-E Height and Bulk Limit.
Preliminary Recommendation: Review and Comment

SPEAKERS: = Justin Greving – Staff presentation
 + Patrick McNerney – Project sponsor
 = Allison Vanderslice – Staff report
 ACTION: Reviewed and Commented

ADJOURNMENT 1:55 PM

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 17, 2021