Meeting Minutes

Commission Chambers, Room 400
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett-Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Wednesday, June 15, 2022
12:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: MATSUDA, NAGESWARAN, BLACK, FOLEY, JOHNS, SO, WRIGHT
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT MATSUDA AT 12:58 PM

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Pilar LaValley, Rich Sucre – Deputy Director of Current Planning, 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 Sucre, Deputy Director of Current Planning:
Good afternoon, Commissioners. Rich Sucre, Department staff. Just to provide you an update on happenings at the board - the landmark initiation for the Turk and Taylor intersection has occurred so now our staff are starting to work on that particular nomination. Today we are actually joined by some of our Summer interns, and the Preservation Team, you want to give a wave, is lucky enough to have 4 great Summer interns that are helping us. We have Emma Mooney who is working on our Public Art and Statutes Context Historic Statement, Jeremy Epstein who is working on our Jewish Historic Context Statement, Alexander Resnick who is working on the SF Cultural Association and Historic Resource Finding Audit intern and Surbhi Agrawal our Landmark Recognition and Interpretation intern. So, this is part of the Department’s larger internship program. We have about I think 15 or 18 Summer interns in college as well as a series of high school interns that are being hosted that is run by our former senior Preservation planner Tina Tam who is now our Deputy Zoning Administrator.

President Matsuda:
Welcome.

C. COMMISSION MATTERS

2. President’s Report and Announcements

None.

3. Consideration of Adoption:
   - Draft Minutes for June 1, 2022

   SPEAKERS: None
   ACTION: Adopted
   AYES: Wright, Black, Foley, Johns, So, Nageswaran, Matsuda

4. Commission Comments & Questions

None.

D. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONTINUANCE

The Commission will consider a request for continuance to a later date. The Commission may choose to continue the item to the date proposed below, to continue the item to another date, or to hear the item on this calendar.
E. REGULAR CALENDAR

5. 2022-00442DES

MOTHER’S BUILDING (1 ZOO ROAD, SAN FRANCISCO ZOO) – southeast of Sloat Boulevard and Great Highway, within San Francisco Zoo, portion of Assessor’s Parcel Block 7281, Lot 006 (Districts 4 and 7). Consideration to Recommend to the Board of Supervisors Landmark Designation of the Mother’s Building as an individual Article 10 Landmark pursuant to Section 1004.2 of the Planning Code. Initiation of landmark designation of the Mother’s Building was introduced by Supervisor Melgar and adopted by the Board of Supervisors on April 12, 2022 (See BoS File No. 220275). The Mother’s Building, constructed in 1925 for Herbert and Mortimer Fleishhacker to honor their late mother, was donated to the City and dedicated to serve as a resting place for mothers and young children. During the Works Progress Administration (WPA) era of the 1930’s, the Public Works of Art Project (PWAP) and Federal Art Project (FAP), New Deal programs designed to employ artists and fund visual art in the United States, selected Bay Area artists Helen K. Forbes and Dorothy Puccinelli, who painted murals at interior, and Helen Bruton (assisted by her sisters, Margaret and Esther Bruton), who installed tile mosaics at exterior. The Mother’s Building is culturally and historically significant for its association with women’s history, specifically, as one of the only recreation sites of the period focused on the comfort of mothers and their young children, and as the only large-scale WPA art project created solely by women. The building, which showcases the work of several of the region’s finest female artists, is significant for association with these artists and their artworks, and for association with the history of the Works Project Administration’s Federal Art Project. Further, as one of the few buildings remaining from recreational improvements made along the City’s coastline during the 1920s and 1930s, the Mother’s Building, which exemplified new patterns of recreation, is significant for its association with early recreational facilities in San Francisco. Lastly, the Mother’s Building is architecturally significant as an excellent example of Italian Renaissance Revival architecture designed by architect of merit George W. Kelham. The subject property is in a P (Public) Zoning District, an OS Height and Bulk District, and the Sunset Chinese Cultural District. The Planning Department has found that this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act and the Historic Preservation Commission will rely on that determination to make its decision.

Preliminary Recommendation: Adopt a Recommendation for Approval

SPEAKERS:  
  + Jen Low, Legislative aide of Sup. Melgar – Introduction
  = Pilar LaValley – Staff presentation
  + Stacey Bradley – Rec and Park
  + Rex Ridgeway – Support
  + Richard Rothman – Support
  + Woody LaBounty – Support
  + David Hooper - Support

ACTION: Adopted a Recommendation for Approval

AYES: Wright, Black, Foley, Johns, So, Nageswaran, Matsuda

RESOLUTION: 1248

ADJOURNMENT 1:31 PM
ADOPTED JULY 20, 2022