



**DRAFT**

**DRAFT MINUTES  
SUNNYVALE HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 7:00 P.M.  
Lobby Conference Room, Sunnyvale City Hall  
456 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale 94086**

**CALL TO ORDER/SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Jeanine Stanek; Vice Chair David Squellati; Comm. Mark Johnson; Comm. Mike Michitaka; Comm. Dale Mouritsen; Comm. Amrit Verma

Absent: Comm. Nirmala Vaidyanathan

Staff Present: Ryan Kuchenig, Associate Planner; Joey Mariano, Recording Secretary

Council Liaison: Jim Griffith

**SCHEDULED PRESENTATION**

None

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. Approval of Draft Minutes of September 5, 2012**

**Chair Stanek** noted modifications she had suggested through email prior to the meeting.

**Vice Chair Squellati** requested further corrections to grammar and sentence structure.

**Comm. Mouritsen made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 5, 2012 with modifications. Vice Chair Squellati seconded. Motion carried 3-0, with Comm. Verma and Comm. Michitaka abstaining, and Comm. Vaidyanathan absent.**

**Comm. Johnson** joined the meeting.

**Council Liaison Griffith** noted that the Minutes should not take long to approve, and that grammar and structural changes should be made prior to distributing the draft Minutes to the Commission.

**Vice Chair Squellati** advised the Commission that they should not vote to approve the Minutes if they were not able to review them prior to the meeting.

**Chair Stanek** requested that staff provide the Minutes prior to the final packet distribution in order to review them and make any necessary changes.

**Joey Mariano** noted that City Council receives the draft Minutes generally two weeks after the meeting as an “Information Only” item on the City Council Agenda.

**Mr. Kuchenig** noted that an effort will be made to distribute the draft Minutes earlier than the current procedure.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **2. Welcome new Commissioner Mike Michitaka**

**Comm. Michitaka** introduced himself and shared his background and interests in serving the community.

Each of the Commissioners introduced themselves and shared their background.

### **3. Selection and Ranking of Potential Study Issues for 2013**

**Chair Stanek** summarized the study issue process, and noted the three potential study issues for ranking.

**Mr. Kuchenig** gave a brief summary of the study issues, and discussed the ranking procedure. He noted that the study issue papers cannot be changed substantially, but minor modifications can be made. He also noted the City Council public hearing date on January 8, 2013. He further explained that they may request sponsorship from a councilmember for a new study not discussed this evening at a later date.

#### **CDD 12-02: Possible Nomination of Non-Residential Properties to the Heritage Resource Inventory**

**Mr. Kuchenig** summarized the study and noted that it was deferred in 2012. Staff has recommended for deferral this year.

**Comm. Johnson** asked for clarification regarding a windshield survey.

**Mr. Kuchenig** noted that it is a survey conducted by observations driving around the community.

#### **CDD 13-10: Financial Assistance for Property Owners of Heritage Resources Structures**

**Mr. Kuchenig** summarized the study issue and noted that a component of this study includes exploring relocation of heritage resource structures to another location such as Heritage Park. The Mills Act was also explained. He further noted that staff recommends to defer this study issue.

#### **CDD 13-11: Examination of Commercial and Residential Structures Located Downtown for Possible Inclusion in the City's Heritage Resource Inventory.**

**Mr. Kuchenig** summarized the study. He noted that this study is similar to CDD 12-02, but is more specific to the downtown area. He noted that a windshield survey would also be conducted for this study. Staff's recommendation is to also defer this study issue.

**Comm. Michitaka** asked staff to clarify who originated the study.

**Mr. Kuchenig** explained the general process of study issues. He noted that the studies are often proposed by the Commission, and then drafted by staff. The studies then get ranked by the various Commissions. City Council ultimately decides to rank, drop, or defer each study issue.

**Comm. Michitaka** asked staff to clarify the City and specific land owner's role regarding Heritage Resources.

**Mr. Kuchenig** discussed how properties are added to the Heritage Resource list and the different roles that the City and property owners may take.

**Chair Stanek** noted Council policies referring to criteria that the Commission considers for Heritage Landmarks and Resources.

**Comm. Michitaka** asked how the hours get estimated to a dollar figure.

**Mr. Kuchenig** explained that it is an estimate based on staff time and resources from previous studies.

**Chair Stanek** recommended correcting the spelling to Taaffe-Frances Street for study issue CDD 13-11.

**Comm. Johnson** asked staff regarding the recommendation to defer study issue CDD13-10.

**Mr. Kuchenig** stated that staff already currently monitors available state and federal grants related to heritage preservation. He noted the creation of a "Heritage Park" may be considered a high cost option that may not be viable at this time.

**Comm. Johnson** further asked staff what criterion is needed for staff to recommend approval for a study issue. He also asked to clarify "staff" in the study issue papers.

**Mr. Kuchenig** explained the study issue paper write-up process, and that each study gets reviewed by several members of City staff, including the City Manager. He pointed out that Community Development Department has 34 study issues for consideration. Each of them are reviewed collectively depending on certain criteria, including importance, financial support, and available staff resources.

**Comm. Michitaka** asked what the timeframe and process for a structure is to go through the Heritage Resource nomination process, and asked if the owner has the final consent to have the property listed.

**Mr. Kuchenig** summarized that the process and approximate timeline. He noted that the City may initially perform a survey without the owner's discretion. In other cases, the process is initiated by the property owner.

**Chair Stanek** discussed the 100 block of Murphy Avenue as an example to clarify Comm. Michitaka's inquiry.

**Comm. Mouritsen** asked if there are any specific places where these structures would be moved.

**Mr. Kuchenig** responded that several locations would be explored.

**Comm. Mouritsen** noted that if the location is Sunnyvale Orchard Heritage Park, that it may negatively impact the character of the park.

**Chair Stanek** noted that the current study issue, regarding Cultural Heritage, has recently been approved by City Council.

**Chair Stanek opened the public hearing.**

**Comm. Johnson** asked whether he had proposed CDD 12-02 to the Commission.

**Mr. Kuchenig** mentioned that he may be referring to CDD 12-04, Recognition of the Technological Events and Innovations of Sunnyvale, which was dropped by Council last year.

**Chair Stanek** clarified with staff regarding the process to rank the proposed study issues.

**Comm. Mouritsen moved to drop CDD 13-10. Vice Chair Squellati seconded.**

**Comm. Mouritsen** pointed out that an element of the study issue may result in negative impacts to Heritage Park through the loss of more orchard trees.

**Vice Chair Squellati** reiterated that staff currently performs some of the tasks noted in the study, such as seeking available grants, and that this study issue may not be financially feasible at this time.

**Comm. Johnson** explained that he would like to allow City Council to consider this issue, and would vote against the motion.

**Council Member Liaison Griffith** noted that all study issues will be brought forward to City Council, regardless if it gets dropped by this Commission.

**Mr. Kuchenig** clarified that since the study issue was initiated by this Commission, and if dropped; it would be removed from consideration by the City Council.

**Motion carried 5-1 to drop CDD 13-10, with Comm. Johnson dissenting and Comm. Vaidyanathan absent.**

**Vice Chair Squellati made a motion to defer CDD 13-11, Comm. Michitaka seconded.**

**Vice Chair Squellati** noted it is more important to focus on CDD 12-02 because staff has conducted some of the research already. He stated that CDD 12-02 is more important at this point in time, and would like to defer CDD 13-11.

**Motion carried 5-1 to defer CDD 13-11, with Comm. Johnson dissenting and Comm. Vaidyanathan absent.**

Chair Stanek asked for a motion to rank, drop, or defer CDD 12-02.

**Commissioners collectively made a motion to rank CDD 12-02 as one of one remaining study issues for consideration. Motion carried 6-0 with Comm. Vaidyanathan absent.**

**Chair closed the public hearing.**

**Mr. Kuchenig** described study issue ESD 13-05, and that it may not be in the purview of this Commission. He further explained the idea of an ecodistrict.

**Chair Stanek** asked whether the Commission would review an ecodistrict if it is within a historic district.

**Mr. Kuchenig** answered in the affirmative and that it may also involve another Commission.

**Comm. Michitaka** asked if the goal of the issue is to establish a pilot area and have the City show that they support eco-friendly development.

**Mr. Kuchenig** explained the City policies that promote sustainable development, such as solar panels and green building requirements.

**Vice Chair Squellati** noted his preference for incentives, rather than requirements for home owners.

#### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

- BOARD MEMBERS OR COMMISSIONERS ORAL COMMENTS

**Chair Stanek** stated that she attended the City Council meeting on October 16 and summarized the outcome of the Cultural Heritage of Sunnyvale study issue. She also noted to staff that most of the recommendations she has given regarding the context statement were not included. She offered to work with staff with the corrections submitted by this Commission, and hoped that the context statement could be corrected prior to publishing on the website.

**Chair Stanek** stated that she is hoping to hear from more ethnic groups to add to the context statement. She requested that all commissioners seek more information to contribute.

**Comm. Johnson** noted his current contact with a African American community, and that she instructs at De Anza Community College. He noted a published book that may have information regarding Sunnyvale and will try to retrieve that for the context statement.

**Comm. Michitaka** talked to the Imahara family, and was not aware of their history in Sunnyvale. He noted that a son of Mr. Imahara has a store in Cupertino and that there is a book regarding the family's personal history. He noted that he will try to retrieve the book.

- STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

**Mr. Kuchenig** stated that the next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2013.

#### **INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

**Chair Stanek** inquired Council Liaison Griffith regarding upcoming issues to the City Council.

**Council Liaison Griffith** noted upcoming items to be reviewed by the City Council, including a potential ban on styrofoam containers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Ryan Kuchenig, Associate Planner