

# **CITY OF SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL RESOURCES BOARD**

## **POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Monday, March 13, 2017, at 3:00 PM

Conference Room 4C

Development Services Building

1222 First Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

## **MEETING NOTES**

### **1. Attendance**

Boardmembers: Courtney Coyle, Priscilla Ann Berge, Ann Woods

Staff: Elyse Lowe, Camille Pekarek, Myra Herrmann

Guests: Amie Hayes (SOHO), Sharon Gehl (AIA Preservation Subcommittee), Diane Kane (LJHS)

### **2. Public Comment (on matters not on the agenda)**

Sharon Gehl announced OH! San Diego's upcoming open house event on March 25-26. Amie Hayes noted that the Marston House will be included in the open house tour. Elyse Lowe announced that Jodie Brown will be making a presentation at a La Jolla Historical Society event on March 18.

### **3. Subcommittee Comment (on matters not on the agenda)**

Boardmember Berge announced that she attended a district designation workshop hosted by Mission Hills Heritage on March 11 and found it very encouraging. Chair Coyle noted that the City's naming policy is moving through the process. Elyse Lowe noted that the comments provided by the HRB on the naming policy have been considered in recent revisions to the policy – in particular the need for designated historic sites to be brought to the full HRB. Chair Coyle asked when the naming policy is to be seen by City Council. Elyse noted there is no specific date set at this time, but possibly April.

### **4. Issues – Historic Preservation Fund (Item 5 on the Agenda)**

Elyse provided a number of handouts on the details concerning the Historic Preservation Fund. She noted that there have been no expenditures for a number of years; there is still money budgeted within the fund; and changes to the program budget will need to go to City Council for approval.

Boardmember Berge indicated that the goal in setting up the fund was for the betterment of the City; noted plaques for districts as an example of good use of the fund; noted that the fund was not intended for individual sites. Boardmember Berge also recalled the use of funds previously approved for speakers for archaeological conferences.

Myra Herrmann noted that archaeological mitigation fund money was merged with Historic Preservation Fund money. Boardmember Berge asked if there was a formula developed to determine the cost of reconstruction of lost resources. Myra noted that the amount was developed with City staff and the City Attorney; noted that funds were used to replace historic plaques that had been stolen from public property only. Boardmember Berge suggested that in districts where street lights are called out as an element of the district, those lights need upkeep, lead paint removal, repairs, etc. Chair Coyle noted that HPF money shouldn't be allocated for things the City would already be doing. Myra noted that training for CEQA may be an appropriate use of funds. Elyse noted that staff is looking into hosting future CPF trainings/webinars and will update Boardmembers as needed. Diane Kane suggested that CPF would be interested in doing training in September with the City as a cosponsor; suggested that the City may consider providing a location. Elyse noted that this could possibly be arranged. Chair Coyle suggested that the seminar attendance be boosted with prior noticing to the public. Diane indicated that CPF does not intend to limit "eyeballs" in these seminars; asked if the funds generated from archaeological sources can be spent on anything. Myra stated that there had been no discussion on which types of funds may be spent on either archaeology or built environment; not sure that it really mattered. Chair Coyle noted that we should honor any existing allocations. Elyse estimated about \$83k in the fund was from built environment issues. Myra suggested using funds for updating the archaeology library and getting materials scanned. Elyse indicated this could probably be done in concert with the environmental library.

Chair Coyle expressed interest in using funds for feasibility studies; cited recent SDPs for demolition of historic sites in which feasibility studies are done by the applicants and by Civic as an independent study. Chair Coyle expressed interest in using funds for feasibility studies independent from the applicant's; and that the funds might be generated as part of the SDP fee. Elyse indicated that per the resolution that created the HPF, the fund is intended to assist those with low to moderate income; would not be comfortable using funds for feasibility studies as suggested without taking it to City Council for clarification. Boardmember Berge suggested that the fund is not wholly for low income. Boardmember Woods questioned whether there are any entities available to perform feasibility studies pro bono. Chair Coyle suggested perhaps there are universities that may take up the task.

Elyse briefly discussed staff's ideas including educational workshops and mailers, with a focus on CDBG eligible or low-income areas. Boardmember Berge expressed interest in a focus on cultural landscapes of districts, districts that are not just based on architecture; suggested editing of the district policy 4.1; not sure where to fund these things from.

Chair Coyle pointed out the high costs involved in moving structures; suggested developing a list of receiver sites in the City's jurisdiction as a way to assist in preservation efforts; suggested using funds towards relocations or the purchase of receiver sites.

Amie Hayes briefly referenced a CCDC or Civic receiver street plan which eventually fell through. Diane Kane expressed displeasure with the district designation process as being too cumbersome, resulting in a long wait for many potential districts; suggested it should be easier to designate districts

## **5. Work Program Discussion (not discussed)**

### **Adjourned at 4:08 PM**

The next Policy Subcommittee Meeting will be on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 3:00 PM.

For more information, please contact Camille Pekarek at [clpekarek@sandiego.gov](mailto:clpekarek@sandiego.gov) or 619-236-7173.