

Anthony, Shannon

Subject: FW: Letter of concern re. Item 5 on 5/24/18 HRB docket
Attachments: HRB Item-5 Abbe Wolfsheimer.docx

From: Norma Damashek [<mailto:ndamashek@ucsd.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 10:25 PM
To: PLN Historical Resources <HistoricalResources@sanidiego.gov>
Cc: Bry, Barbara <bbry@blackbirdv.com>; Francisco, Sonnier <SFrancisco@sanidiego.gov>
Subject: Letter of concern re. Item 5 on 5/24/18 HRB docket

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From: Norma Damashek
To: City of San Diego Historical Resources Board
Re: Agenda Item 5 on the May 24, 2018 HRB docket (6200 Avenida Cresta, La Jolla)

Dear Members of the Historical Resources Board,

I am not an expert in Historic Resources but I am a long-time active participant in the realm of city planning, urban design, and quality of life in the city of San Diego.

I worked for years in the office of former City Councilmember Abbe Wolfsheimer and have held positions in various capacities in numerous civic organizations and city committees.

In other words, I have given a lot of time, energy, and thought to making San Diego a healthy, vibrant, interesting city. In the process I have learned that the effort we put into integrating the past with the present, and the honor we bestow on San Diegans whose work has greatly benefited our city, inevitably enriches our city for posterity.

Your staff report HRB 18-023 declares that Councilmember Abbe Wolfsheimer's lifetime of work on behalf of the San Diego region may be impressive but is not sufficiently important to the history of San Diego to deserve designation under the standards of Criterion B.

This city has thrived and benefitted from the selfless and productive work of many individuals throughout its history. There is no doubt that Abbe Wolfsheimer is among the most prominent and significant of these historic legacies – an elected official at a time when women were in short supply in city government... a land use expert who guided the opening of the Future Urbanizing Area... an environmentalist who was a key figure in creating the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy... and on and on.

Finally, it is most unfortunate that your staff report delivers a peculiar and demeaning insult by minimizing Abbe Wolfsheimer's importance to the history of this city, comparing her contributions to San Diego with hypothetical achievements of "contemporaries of the same socio-economic status or profession." What in the world could have prompted staff to include such an unprofessional and inappropriate judgment?

Yours truly,

Norma Damashek
637 Bonair Place
La Jolla, CA 92037
858-459-8751

From: [Kathryn Burton](#)
To: [PLN Historical Resources](#)
Cc: [Councilmember Barbara Bry](#); [Francisco, Sonnier](#)
Subject: Abby Wolfsheimer residence, 6200 Avenida Cresta, La Jolla
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2018 9:03:07 AM

Dear Members of the Historical Resources Board,

I was a long time friend of Abbe Wolfsheimer. I know that she and her husband David Stutz wanted their house to be historically designated.

Your staff report insultingly diminished Councilmember Wolfsheimer's importance in San Diego history.

I would ask that you re-examine this finding. Councilmember Wolfsheimer was ground breaking in San Diego in her accomplishments of shattering the glass ceiling for women in politics and law.

Councilmember Wolfsheimer also did much for the arts and environment in San Diego. For a list of her considerable accomplishments, please see <http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/obituaries/sdut-abbe-wolfsheimer-stutz-diego-obituary-2014mar16-story.html>

I must admit to being offended by staff's language that Wolfsheimer's accomplishments were no better than her "contemporaries of the same socio-economics status or profession". I would like an explanation for this statement and examples of who else might surpass Abbe Wolfsheimer in her contributions to San Diego.

I support the historical designation of 6200 Avenida Cresta, La Jolla.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Burton