



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY HISTORICAL
LANDMARKS AND RECORDS COMMISSION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

Friday, October 12, 2012

9:30 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (12-4908)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Chair Louis Skelton, Vice Chair Stephen Sass and Commissioner Yolanda Duarte-White

Excused: Commissioner Elysha Paluszek and Commissioner Ivy Sun

Call to Order. (12-4521)

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sass at 9:44 a.m.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the July 13, 2012 Minutes. (12-4522)

On motion of Commissioner Duarte-White, seconded by Vice Chair Sass, unanimously carried, the minutes of July 13, 2012 were approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. PRESENTATION

2. Discussion on the September 18, 2012 motion by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas regarding the implementation of the Mills Act and development of a Historical Preservation Program for the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles.

- Richard Bruckner, Director, Regional Planning (12-4529)

Richard Bruckner, Director, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (Planning), introduced Joseph Nicchitta, County Counsel, who will be working with Planning and the Commission on Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas motion to provide recommendations on the development

of a Historic Preservation Program, including potential survey methods, protection strategies, and the feasibility of enacting a Mills Act Program for the unincorporated areas of the County. Mr. Bruckner advised the Commission that Mr. Nicchitta's initial work will include the development of the Mills Act Ordinance and Contract. To ensure efficiency in the Mills Act processes the initial number of contracts will be limited to a few and then increased in the next few years. The ordinance will outline the processes for designating a property, as well as processes for the collaborating departments.

Mr. Bruckner further suggested the Commission schedule a Special Meeting before the end of the year to review the ordinance and contract prior to the regularly scheduled meeting on January 11, 2013 in order to meet the deadline set to prepare a response to the Board. Commission Services Staff will contact Planning to schedule a date in November or December for the Special Meeting.

Vice Chair Sass congratulated Mr. Bruckner for their progress and requested that the Commission be notified when items related to the ordinance is scheduled to be on the Board of Supervisors meeting agenda.

Upon implementation of the Mills Act, Mr. Bruckner further stated that Planning may be responsible for the initial review of the contracts which will require the expertise of a consultant to assess the historical significance of the property.

Chair Skelton added that he would like to review the tax range schedule for properties that qualify for Mills Act. Then he suggested that Planning create an overlay zone of communities located in the unincorporated areas of the County to assist in identifying particular zoning requirements and historical properties.

Chair Skelton thanked Mr. Bruckner and County Counsel for their collaborative efforts to establish the ordinance and the contract.

The Commission also discussed their appreciation to Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas for his motion to move forward with the Mills Act Program and Historical Preservations Ordinance after so many years of the Commission's work and desire to have them in place. After discussion, Vice Chair Sass will write a letter thanking Supervisor Ridley-Thomas for taking the initiative to establish a Historical Preservation Ordinance and the Mills Act.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
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III. RECOMMENDATIONS

3. Recommendation: Receive and file correspondence from the Office of Historic Preservation and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Listings considered:

- California Air and Space Museum/Sketch Gallery
- Fox Theatre Inglewood
- Southern California Sanitarium Historic District
- Merwin House
- Marvilla Handball Court and El Centro Grocery
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority (12-4361)

The Commission reviewed the correspondence from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) requesting information from the Commission related to any resources that may be of historical significance near the proposed Universal City Pedestrian Bridge that would span Lankershim Boulevard, Universal Hollywood Drive with landings on Lankershim Boulevard, and Campo de Cahuenga Way/Universal Hollywood Drive.

After a brief discussion, Vice Chair Sass indicated that additional information is needed to determine if the Metro Transportation Authority (MTA) design will have any impact on Campo de Cahuenga since one of the bridges' landings appears to be directly next an historic site. Commission Service Staff will invite a representative from the MTA to personally address questions that were indicated in Vice Chair Sass' email.

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4. Recommendation: Register Leona Valley School House as a California point of Historical interest with the California Office of Historic Preservation. (12-4535)

Ms. Peggy Fuller, West Antelope Valley Historical Society (Society), presented briefly on the application to register Old Leona Valley Schoolhouse as a California Point of Historical Interest. Presently, the structure built in 1890 consist of a small one room schoolhouse and a basement located on a four-acre property owned by the Leona Valley Improvement Association. The basement and building are used to store historical documents, pictures, as well as, to hold the Society's monthly meetings.

After discussion, on motion of Vice Chair Sass, seconded by Commissioner Duarte-White, unanimously carried, the Commission instructed staff to prepare a letter to the Board of Supervisors recommending approval of the application and registration of Leona Valley Schoolhouse as a California Point of Historical Interest with the California Historical Resources Commission.

Chair Skelton thanked Ms. Fuller for her presentation and Vice Chair Sass requested that the Commission be informed of any future plans by the Society to celebrate the registration. Ms. Fuller requested to be notified when Leona Valley Schoolhouse will be placed on the Board agenda.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

IV. REPORTS

- 5.** Chairperson Skelton's Report for the meeting of October 12, 2012. (12-4526)

Chair Skelton stated he supports holding a special meeting to review the Mills Act and the contract. He iterated that the Mills Act is not a protective tool but an incentive tool to make properties available for protection.

- 6.** Ex-Officio Member Reports for October 12, 2012. (12-4527)

Ex-Officio Member Portia Sanders, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (Registrar-Recorder), informed the Commission that she found a publication printed in 1956 titled, "Historical Landmarks in Los Angeles County, A Descriptive Guide for Teachers" while clearing out old documents. Two copies were passed around and Ms. Sanders promised to provide additional copies so each Commissioner can have one each.

Ms. Sanders continued and reported that the record management and depository retention schedule submitted in 2008/09 is still being

reviewed by County Counsel. In 2011, the Registrar-Recorder was designated as the records manager for the County and has been working collaboratively with Enterprise Content Management Company (ECMC) who has a master agreement with the County. ECMC will provide a cost benefit analysis for storing information electronically by the end of October 2012. ECMC is evaluating four types of documents to be stored County-wide: Executive Correspondence; Public Records Requests; Personnel Files; and Historical Election Files. Discussion ensued on the delay in finalizing the retention schedule. Chair Skelton requested Commission Services Staff to coordinate efforts with Ms. Sander to have a representative from the Chief Executive Office to come and address the Commission on the status of Registrar-Recorder's retention schedule.

Vice Chair Sass mentioned that the University of Southern California (USC) Shoah Foundation (which is a part of the USC Libraries) uses archival technology to preserve testimonies of holocaust survivors in addition to assisting other organizations to electronically manage records. He offered to provide information regarding the technology company to Ms. Sanders for consideration as a potential records management partner with County of Los Angeles.

Chair Skelton thanked Ms. Sander for the wonderful publication and for keeping the Commission updated on the retention schedule and depository for the County of Los Angeles.

7. Staff Report for the meeting of October 12, 2012. (12-4528)

There was no report given.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

8. Matters not posted on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (12-4531)

Chair Skelton iterated the importance and urgency of having a Commission website, especially now that the Mills Act is coming into fruition. He suggested linking the Commission's website to other sites within the County i.e. the Library's website. This item will be placed on the next meeting's agenda for further discussion.

Public Comment

9. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (12-4532)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

10. Adjournment of the meeting of October 12, 2012. (12-4533)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.