MINUTES
HUNTINGTON BEACH ART CENTER
HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD

Friday, February 20, 2009
1:30 p.m.
Huntington Beach Art Center
538 Main Street
Huntington Beach CA 92648

I. CALL TO ORDER:
Ryan called the meeting of the Historic Resources Board to order at 1:30 p.m. at which time a quorum was met.

II. ROLL CALL: Harris, Haynes, Hoffman, Howard, Kennedy, Robinson, Santiago, Watkins

ABSENCES: Essner, Schey

STAFF PRESENT: Clary, Hoffman

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Members reviewed the minutes from the January 15, 2009 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:
Ryan welcomed the board, and introduced the guests; Dareen Yonts, past Principal Peterson Elementary; Stephanie Beverage, Director of Library Services; Kelly, Maureen and Darrel Rivers, Historical Society; Richardson Gray; Downtown Residence Association.

V. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. Dareen Yonts, past principal of Peterson Elementary came before the board to ask for their advice and help in producing a history of schools in Huntington Beach. Santiago gave some informative information that he has discovered in his research of when the school district was formed and how it evolved. Ms. Yonts wants to start her project as an overview of the entire school district and feels that it may eventually break down to the history of individual schools. Ryan said it's a good idea to tackle this project while the individuals with the knowledge of events are still around. Santiago said that this may not be the year for the board to help her, but suggests that Ms. Yonts find people to help her gather the information for the project and not try to take it on by herself.

2. Mr. Gray introduced himself and said he is here today representing the Downtown Residents Association (DRA), which consists of approximately 80 members. The

DRA has gathered over 1,000 signatures against the redevelopment of the Main Street Library into a 30,000 sq. ft. cultural center project consisting of the cultural center, condos and retail shops. Mr. Gray doesn't feel that the report addresses or guarantees preservation of the existing library, which is 50+ years old, and the attached park land. Mr. Gray said the DRA asked that the Historic Resources Board act to have the library added to the National Registry. Mr. Gray gave a brief history of the building architecture, which is significant in its historical value as one of the first concrete tilt-ups of its kind. The board, along with Mr. Gray discussed other cities and how they have managed to incorporate historic buildings into an updated retail/residential area. Mr. Gray said he feels that the old Pierside Theater would be ideal for a performing arts center; however, Stephanie Beverage said the City is not able to utilize that area since it is privately held and not city property. He said that to build a 30,000 sq. ft. facility is expensive and may be cost effective to purchase that property. Santiago informed Gray that the old theater had problems with noise and decibels with past businesses in that facility. Hoffman said it's not just about a performing arts center, but about a creating a cultural district with a high-end cultural center. Hoffman said that the city's goal is to develop an area that is different from the surf and bikini shops in the first three blocks of Main ST. The idea is to attract high end restaurants and art galleries to the fourth and fifth blocks to bring up the quality of life for both residents and tourists. Hoffman asked Beverage if she has any information of the current status of the library. Hoffman said that she recalls that the library was listed on the general plan as not having been researched, but still needing to be researched to see if it is historical. Beverage said that she is new and still learning about the library system, but she understands the library is on a list to be researched. She said that it is dysfunctional as a building and lacks what is needed to make it an effective-modern library. It appears to have good "bones", but it really could use some updating. She said they are early in the process of identifying what is needed, but the library is a key component in the discussions of a cultural district within the city. Hoffman discussed the option of artists' lofts and Gray said that although that would be nice, there is no designation in the report of artists' lofts. Santiago discussed options for merging the old with the new when he lived in Indianapolis. Mr. Gray reiterated that the citizens do not want to see the building or the park gone, and that addressing the "green" issue is very important to them. Hoffman said that this board is an advisory board to city council and that they can take these concerns to their council liaisons Jill Hardy and Joe Carchio. The board agreed to contact them.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. None.

VII. CURRENT ISSUE UPDATES:

1. **Education Committee Update**
   a. **Book - *Ebb & Flow, 100 Years of Huntington Beach***
      1. 25 cases of books have been ordered. Robinson offered her storage unit behind the art center for storing the books. Hoffman said 2 cases were needed at the art center immediately.
      2. The board agreed to the cost of the book as a donation of $10. It was proposed and seconded. We are still awaiting the final bill to know if we came in under budget. Hoffman explained that all proceeds will go to the Centennial Committee. If the book generates more than the cost, then the Centennial

Committee will decide at the end of the year where the profits will be used. Santiago isn't happy with the Centennial Committee receiving the proceeds of the book. He believes that the proceeds should go toward the video that Watkins has been working on. This item will be tabled until the next meeting.

3. Ryan is on the education committee and said that Van Riley wants to copy the book for distribution to the school district – approximately 30,000 copies. The board discussed the issue and decided that after the centennial year, he can purchase the books. Watkins will get a price on 10,000 and 30,000 from the printer. The board also discussed the proceeds from this sale and whether they should go to the Centennial Committee. The board agreed that the funds from the first run of the book could go to the Centennial Committee, but all other sales should come back to the Historic Resources Board. Hoffman will look into how the money can come back to the HRB since it is only an advisory committee and does not hold any bank accounts.

b. Documentary

1. Discussion ensued regarding final invoicing from printer for the historical book. Once reviewed, monies may be identified to be applied to the documentary. The board asked Watkins to provide the invoice as soon as possible.

c. Historic Exhibition

1. The board discussed the excitement and success of the historic exhibition, Ebb & Flow.
2. Ryan suggested that the discussion on the preservation panel be tabled until the next meeting.
3. Howard would like copies of the pioneer family book for her presentation at her church. Haynes will get a price quote from Dominic. Before they are reprinted a few names need to be corrected. Clary will help Haynes with this.
4. Howard asked if copies the centennial video will be available for sale or giveaway. Hoffman said that the video is the property of the Centennial Committee and not for sale.

d. Surf Film Event, 2/22/09

1. Santiago has been passing out flyers for the upcoming film, *Endless Summer*. He gave an overview of the days events. There will be a ukulele group to welcome visitors. Robert August will be in attendance for a Q & A after the film.

2. Centennial Committee Update
   a. See section 1.a. Book for details.

VIII. <u>NEW BUSINESS:</u>

b. 1. None

IX. <u>MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED</u>

None

X. ITEMS TO BE AGENDIZED

1. Preservation Panel Summary
2. Ebb & Flow Book

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Historic Resources Board is scheduled for 1:30 pm on Friday, March 20, 2009 at the Huntington Beach Art Center, 538 Main Street, Huntington Beach.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlene Clary, Recording Secretary
Barbara Haynes, Vice Chairman