

# Historic Resources Board

An advisory board to the Huntington Beach City Council

**MINUTES  
HUNTINGTON BEACH ART CENTER  
HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD**

**Friday, March 16, 2007  
1:30 p.m.  
Huntington Beach Art Center  
538 Main Street  
Huntington Beach CA 92648**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Historic Resources Board came to order at 1:40 p.m. at which time a quorum was met.

**ROLL CALL:**

Essner, Harris, Howard, Kennedy, Morgan, Ryan, Santiago, Council Liaisons Hardy and Carchio,

**ABSENCES:**

Watkins

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Hoffman, Ruble

**GUEST:**

Higgins Family Members, Carol O'Connell, Bradley Johnson

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:** Hoffman welcomed the guests.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. **Higgins Historical House** – Mike Higgins and Gay Treece presented an update on their situation regarding facilitating the donation, sale, demolition, or preservation of the house belonging to their father's trust. According to the city and a 1987 HB historical homes list, the house is unofficially designated as having historical significance. The family would like to donate the home to the city for preservation but were told they would have to pay for architectural historian survey fees (\$7,000) to officially label the home as having historical significance. If labeled, more fees, such as EIR fees totally in the thousands, will follow. The family is not willing to pay these fees, especially since they want to donate the home to the city. The city's position is that there are no real policies in place for this type of situation. Council member Hardy and board member Santiago will follow up with the city administrator and council to not only explore a fee waiver, but to also explore developing official policies regarding this type of situations.

2. **Deterioration of Bartlett Park** - Council member Hardy will determine if the city should create redevelopment plans for the park and then ask for the funds to complete, or if they should request the funds to create the plan and then move into development. Not sure if park fees can be used for this development.
3. **Historical Policies** – Hoffman asked the board if they agreed that it was necessary for the city's planning department to come up with an historical homes policy that will be viable. The board agreed that it is needed.
4. **Homeowner Carolyn O'Connell** – Property located at 623 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Ms. O'Connell presented her situation regarding conflicting city staff information regarding her home. Planning (code enforcement) and inspectors are contradicting each other in regards to policies for a home that is considered historical. Councilmember Hardy will address this issue with council.

### **CURRENT ISSUE UPDATES:**

#### **1. Educational Program Committee:**

- Diane Ryan discussed planning a "kick off" event for the educational series which includes the Local History of the City and Local Preservation. She also discussed initiating a city plaque program for additional funds, walking tours, uniting streetscapes and districts, and possibly setting up a trust account to buy historic houses.

#### **2. Demolition Process:**

- Board members addressed the issue of unapproved site demolition. Developers are demolishing buildings without getting city approval. Councilmember Hardy will review this issue with city staff and officials.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. None

### **MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED**

1. Education Committee list of topics

### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 20, 2007 at 1:30 pm.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: Susan Ruble  
Arts Education Coordinator  
Huntington Beach Art Center