

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE
SALINAS HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD
May 6, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. in the City Hall Rotunda.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chairperson Hirahara, Vice Chairperson Mazgai, Board Members Callender, Munoz and Shim

ABSENT: Board Member Wadsworth

STAFF: Planning Manager, Grant Leonard, and Associate Planner, Jessica Shull

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Opened for public comment at 12:01 p.m.

Closed for public comment at 12:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: April 8, 2024 ID #24-274

Board Member Shim motioned to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2024, meeting. Board Member Mazgai seconded this motion.

AYES: Chairperson Hirahara, Vice Chairperson Mazgai, Board Members Callender, Shim, and Munoz

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

This motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

OTHER BUSINESS: Monterey & Salinas Valley Railroad Museum Presentation ID #24-275

Dana Peterson, President of Monterey & Salinas Valley Railroad Museum: Gave a presentation on the exhibits and educational programming at the Monterey & Salinas Valley Railroad Museum and the work that has been completed on the rail cars at the site.

Mark Dorman, Superintendent, Monterey & Salinas Valley Rail Road Museum, and Denise Estrada, Community Stakeholder, spoke to the history of the rail cars at the site and how they were moved to the current location.

Board Member Mazgai: Asked for clarification as to when the museum is open.

Dana Peterson: Answered that is open both Saturday and Sunday, the first full weekend of the month.

Board Member Mazgai: Asked about the history of the caboose that is on site at the museum.

Denise Estrada: Answered that it came from Grower's Ice Company.

Dana Peterson: Discussed the history of all the rail cars on site and how they were moved to the current location.

Board Member Munoz: Asked about the agriculture exhibit that was at the Steinbeck Center.

Mark Dorman: Answered that much of what was on exhibit is now located at the museum.

Chairperson Hirahara: Asked staff to provide feedback if the train cars on this site are considered historic resources and the possibility of designating the rail cars.

Board Member Mazgai: Asked if Kent Seavey had surveyed the site.

Denise Estrada: Answered that the buildings on the site have been surveyed but that the rail cars have not.

Board Member Mazgai: Asked about finding additional information on the rail cars and if the museum has documentation.

Mark Dorman: Answered that there is information on the rail cars and can provide if asked.

Chairperson Hirahara: Directed a question to staff as to how the Historic Resources Board can be supportive of the project.

Board Member Shim: Asked if the site with the railroad museum and First Mayor's House was historic.

Denise Estrada: Answered that the sites were surveyed individually in 1989, by Kent Seavey. There was a recommendation at the time to create a historic district, but no formal designation occurred.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

FOLLOW UP REPORTS

150th Anniversary Celebration

Jessica Shull, Associate Planner, gave a report on the 150-year Celebration.

Denise Estrada: Discussed the importance of signage in the area to help increase community awareness of all of the resources available on the site.

Chairperson Hirahara: Asked for follow up on the status of the El Rey Theater Designation and the Mills Act.

Grant Leonard: Answered that the El Rey Theater was approved by City Council.

Jessica Shull: Answered that the Mills Act would be going to City Council in June.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Plaque Program Subcommittee Report

Chairperson Hirahara: Asked if it would be okay to discuss the handout regarding initial concepts for plaque recognition.

Grant Leonard: Answered that it could be discussed.

Board Member Mazgai: Answered that it was the beginning steps to establish the criteria for what should be recognized. Recognition for an individual who saved a structure from being destroyed, accomplished a major restoration or renovation, or someone who furthered the ideals of historic preservation in Salinas.

Board Member Munoz: Discussed the need for plaques and other educational opportunities and potential grants to offset the cost.

Chairperson Hirahara: Asked what the Plaque Subcommittee would like to see from the Board.

Board Member Mazgai: Answered that the Board can discuss at the next meeting.

Board Member Shim: Discussed the potential art contest to raise awareness of HRB, with Jacquie Atchison. She suggested that the Public Arts Commission should be approached.

Board Member Callender: Stated that he is in agreement with Board Member Shim discussing the project with the Commission and moving forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Confirmation of attendance for next regular meeting on June 3, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Larry Hirahara
Chairperson

Jessica Shull
Executive Secretary