

APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY OF ALAMEDA HISTORICAL ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023

Members of the public can participate in person or remotely via Zoom For information to assist with Zoom participation, please click: <https://www.alamedaca.gov/zoom>.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Sanchez, Vice Chair Jones and Board Members Hernandez, Saxby, and Borthwick.

Absent: None

Vice Chair Jones arrived after roll call.

2. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. MINUTES

3-A 2023-3149 - *Historical Advisory Board Draft Meeting Minutes - April 6, 2023*

Board Member Saxby (*2:45) was confused by what was posted and said the minutes did not make sense to him. The wrong minutes had been posted and it was decided that the April 6th minutes would be continued to the next meeting.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4-A 2023-3150

Objective Design Review Standards. Public workshop on revisions to Objective Design Review Standards (Objective Standards), which consist of a checklist of architectural and site design standards that will apply to housing development projects under State law. Adoption of the Objective Standards is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3), the common sense exception that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and as a separate and independent basis CEQA Guidelines Section 15183, projects consistent with a community plan, general plan or zoning.

David Sablan, Planner II, introduced this item (*5:54) and gave a presentation. The staff report and attachments can be found at:

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6229282&GUID=800C8CFD-54D9-4D75-9637-AB39FFAB9471&FullText=1>.

Board clarifying questions start at *15:48.

Allen Tai, City Planner, also gave information and insight *49:01.

Public Comment for 4A

Chris Buckley, Alameda Architecture Preservation Society, discussed (*52:58) a letter the society had sent. They thanked the board for supporting their comments and staff for incorporating their comments. He discussed in detail their main issues and gave suggestions.

Doug Biggs, Executive Director of the Alameda Pointy Collaborative, discussed (*56:32) in detail about the special standards and exemptions.

Sylvia Martinez, Alameda Housing Authority, (*58:47) discussed what designed characteristics were desired for multi-family housing. She went into detail about what challenges there were for multi-family housing.

Mike Van Dine addressed section 6 (*1:02:47) and thought that this was written to exclude the McKay Ave center from being added to the Historic National Register.

Action for item 4A

Board discussion started at *1:05:09

Staff Member Sablan summarized the notes and feedback that the board had given *1:24:48.

The following comments would be shared with the Planning Board.

Multi-family and Mixed Use

Standard 7B – Context Area Defined – Option 4 Commercial Districts: Consider adding C-1 Zoning District to the list of commercial zones where the “context area” shall be the entire contiguous commercial zoning district.

One and Two Family

Standard 5 – Raising a Building: Provide a new objective standard to allowing the option of creating a new ground floor below the existing house and relocating main entrance to ground floor. This standard would enact the fourth option available for adding a second story to a Victorian or Colonial Revival style building as found in the Guide to Residential Design, see Exhibit 6.

Neighborhood Context Area (applies to both documents)

Standard 7F.5 – Exterior Materials: For “b. Board and batten siding,” clarify that plywood used for board and batten siding shall be architectural grade plywood. For “c. Wood shingles,” eliminate the requirement that synthetic shingles must be sooth

surfaced without imitation raised wood grain. HAB members noted that, unlike synthetic horizontal wood siding, all available synthetic shingle products on the market have imitation raised wood grain.

Standard 7F.6 – Architectural Details: Currently the applicant can choose a minimum of two types or details from the reference building to incorporate. HAB suggests making three details; window and corner trim, porch columns, and cornices mandatory when present on the reference building, in addition to a minimum of two other details chosen by the applicant.

5. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

There was discussion of if there would be a meeting in July (*1:47:19).

6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 9:48 pm.

**the minute mark in the video to hear the comments in full.*