

AVCA Meeting Minutes
Location: Almaden Pizza Co., 5965 Almaden Expy
Monday, June 12, 2006 – 7:00 PM

7:00 pm **Welcome & Introduce attendees as necessary:**

Kim Bomar, Board Member of Stanford Campus Residential Leaseholders
Daniella Polar, Community Relations Coordinator for Nancy Pyle
Monica Heger, Staff Writer for the Almaden Resident

Speaker: Kim Bomar, Board Member of Stanford Campus Residential Leaseholders (SCRL)
Subject: Santa Clara County Historical Preservation Ordinance

Is current ordinance good for historic preservation?

- The SCRL group would like the ordinance modified to make it more family friendly and good for property values.
- Currently this ordinance applies only to unincorporated areas.
- The SCRL group would like the Historical Heritage Commission to be more sympathetic to the needs of homeowners and leaseholders and to provide more of a balance between those needs and historical preservation. Currently, the ordinance is not limited simply to old homes. Landmarks, historical districts, survey properties as well as homes over 50 years old are affected.
- Another issue is the Mills Act, which exempts historically designated homes from most property tax. This, in turn, will reduce taxes collected to fund our schools.
- Renovation permits can be denied despite financial hardship, or work can be ordered done in a particular, expensive way, despite the fact that a homeowner can not afford to do it that way.
- Energy efficiency is generally not permitted; for example, if a homeowner wanted to add feature(s) to improve energy efficiency [solar heating, double-pane windows, etc.] and if this would affect the appearance of the home, the homeowner's idea(s) would be turned down.
- Permits are required for owners with disabilities, such as to install wheelchair access. Even if a modification is necessary because of homeowner's disability or health issue, they are required to file for a permit rather than just making the change, and then are most likely turned down if it affects the appearance of the home.

Crucial Vote - August 26, The County Board of Supervisors will vote on the ordinance.

7:45 pm **Officer/Director Meeting – A Quorum was present**

Officers

Lee Dimmitt, Present
Ray Strong, Present
Gari Soulé, Present
Lisa Wiseman, Present

Directors

Kitty Monahan, Present
Pat McMahan, Present
Ron Blake, Present
Art Boudreault, Present

Secretary's Report -- Lisa Wiseman: May minutes were approved with three changes:

- 1) Change in "Almaden E Loop" 'reproted' to 'reported'
- 2) Change in "Announcements" (twice) from Almaden Community Library/Center to Almaden Library/Community Center

Treasurer's Report -- Gari Soulé reported no changes. The current balance is \$7,818.98.

Communications:

Web Site impact report – Linda Spencer reported a continued increase in accesses to our Web site. Total Visits for May = 4550 and Average Visits Per Day = 146.

Web pages that need to be updated: Traffic, Light Rail Plans, pointer to a newer city page on Almaden Expressway future, Transit, Schools, Public Safety, Rehearsal Exercise for an Airplane Crash Disaster, Almaden Library (write AVCA page on grand opening + photos and then link to the city's page, Parks (add City Parks and update County Parks), set of pages about AVCA, Almaden Valley, Associations, Resources, Representatives (local, city, through federal). Various board members took various pages to research and write changes, and then give to Linda to put on the Web site.

Web Site posting of the minutes: Linda Spencer explained that she will replace the “Meetings” section on the AVCA board page with a new page containing “Meetings” and “Minutes by Year/Month”. Format of the minutes was discussed: PDF (how to convert) or HTML. Linda will look into converting the minutes to PDF format after they have been approved by the board and will then add the minutes to the Web site.

Almaden E Loop -- Lee Dimmitt reported:

E-mail addresses 412 TBA (est. 60% read) = estimated 247 read

Old Business:

AVCA Ethics Guidelines -- Ray Strong & Art Boudreault. Art presented the copy of the AVCA Code of Ethical Conduct that was included with the distributed agenda and minutes. Several changes were recommended, and a revised copy of the document will be submitted at or prior to the next meeting.

AVERT -- Lisa Gidley was not present.

Coyote Valley -- Bob Boydston reported on Coyote Valley Triggers. There followed a discussion regarding traffic, homeowners, new jobs before housing. It is important that the triggers not be abandoned. The next Community Meeting about Coyote Valley will be next Wednesday, June 21st, at the Almaden Community Center with sign-in starting at 6:00 PM and the meeting from 6:30 to 8:30.

The General Plan establishes conditions, known as triggers, which must be met and in place before development can occur. The League considers these triggers to be relevant and critical, and they should not be weakened or abandoned. These triggers are:

A. Building permits are issued for 5,000 new jobs before housing is built.
+ League supports phasing in housing and jobs to maintain the critical jobs-housing balance. Furthermore, these jobs must be new and not displace jobs from other parts of the city.

B. The City's fiscal position is stable, predictable, and adequate for the long-term.
+ The League is concerned that Coyote Valley development should not have a negative impact on the City's fiscal stability and commitments to other parts of the city and to other major projects.

C. City services are maintained at the same level as in 1993.
+ The League believes that services for residents of Coyote Valley must not come at the cost of reduced services for residents in any other part of San Jose.

D. There is reasonable certainty that the City's fiscal relationship with the State and other levels of government will not be significantly altered for a five-year forecast.
+ The League is aware of the results on the City of such acts as expropriation of local funds by the State to help balance the State's fiscal shortfalls.

New Business:

Future Meetings: A motion was made and approved to pay additional fees to the Almaden Valley Community Center for one-time registration fees and to have a staff member present during AVCA meetings.

Via Valiente Report -- Jo Iseman had to leave early, before this section of the meeting. At last month's meeting, she said that there were now three vacant stores in that shopping center. Jo said, before leaving, that the owner of the Via Valiente Plaza did not attend the meeting on May 9th to talk about the conditions there.

Disburse excess funds -- Lee Dimmitt: It was too late in the evening to continue with this discussion, so it will be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

Announcements:

Meet the Public Artists for the new South San Jose Police Substation is Monday, June 19, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Southside Community Center, 5585 Cottle Road, San Jose. Community input and contributions will assist in the success of this project.

Coyote Valley Triggers: Community meeting regarding this important matter is Wednesday, June 21, at the Almaden Valley Community Center. 6:00 pm registration, 6:30 pm meeting begins.

Daniella Polar announced that she will be leaving her position at Nancy Pyle's office, and there is an opening. She leaves in August, and we will miss her.

Next AVCA Meeting to be held Monday, July 10th, 7:00 PM Almaden Library/Community Center or Almaden Pizza Co.

9:15 pm Adjourn