

**CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
CITY OF PALM DESERT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 26, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Present: Committee Member Paul Clark, Committee Member Don Graybill, Vice-Chair Kim Housken, Committee Member Thomas Mortensen, Committee Member David Toltzmann, Committee Member Linda Vassalli, Chair Rochelle McCune

Staff Present: Principal Planner Nick Melloni, Principal Planner Carlos Flores, Director of Development Services Richard Cannone, Recording Secretary Michelle Nance

Liaison(s) Present: Mayor Pro Tem Jan Harnik

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1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee was called to order by Chair McCune on June 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administrative Conference Room, City Hall, located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California.

2. ROLL CALL

3. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli

Seconded by: Chair McCune

To approve the consent calendar as presented.

Motion Carried (7 to 0)

4.a APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the Minutes of March 27, 2024.

5. CONSENT ITEMS HELD OVER

None.

6. ACTION CALENDAR

6.a REQUEST TO PROVIDE DIRECTION ON MILLS ACT ELIGIBLE SCOPES OF WORK

Principal Planner Flores provided a presentation and answered member inquiries. During the course of discussion, the following issues were addressed:

- Whether the City can regulate interior renovations of designated historic landmark homes.
- Preservation of character defining landscaping when designed by a prominent landscape architect.
- Separating Appendix A, Item No. 64 “Install/remove/repair swimming pool” into two categories as follows: “Install swimming pool” and “Remove/repair swimming pool.”

Juleen McElgunn, of Palm Desert, expressed concerns about the updated Mills Act guidelines.

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli

Seconded by: Committee Member Clark

Recommend City Council approval of the Mills Act Program Appendix A with the following revisions:

- Revise row #35 “New water heater” to deem eligible under “Architectural and/or Historical Integrity” with footnote elaborating on front yard location.
- Revise row #62 to say “Contributing Landscaping and Hardscape” and to deem eligible under “Architectural and/or Historical Integrity”.
- Break out row 64 to create two rows: 1) Install new swimming pool, which would be ineligible and 2) Remove/repair swimming pool, which would be eligible under “Architectural and/or Historical Integrity”.

NOES (1): Committee Member Toltzmann

Motion Carried (6 to 1)

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.a CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION FOR AVONDALE GOLF CLUB TO DESIGNATE THE EXISTING CLUB HOUSE LOCATED AT 75800 AVONDALE DRIVE AND GOLF COURSE AS HISTORIC LANDMARKS (CRPC24-0001)

Principal Planner Melloni provided a presentation and answered member inquiries.

The public hearing was opened.

Bryan Corcoran, Vice President of Avondale Golf Club, spoke on behalf of the applicant in favor of the designation and answered member inquiries.

Richard Eberst, of Palm Desert, spoke in favor of the designation and inquired about restrictions on improvements that designation may cause.

Roy DePaul, of Palm Desert, questioned the reason for the designation.

The public hearing was closed.

During the course of discussion, it was discovered that Avondale Golf Club is an equity membership and may need to obtain approval from equity members to move forward with the designation. City staff recommended that the Committee continue the matter to a date uncertain.

**Committee Member Mortensen left the meeting at this time.*

On a motion by Chair McCune, seconded by Committee Member Graybill, carried 6-0, the matter was continued to a date uncertain. However, the Committee expressed a desire to provide feedback to the applicant on any potential changes needed in advance of the item returning to the Committee.

On a motion by Committee Member Vassalli, seconded by Committee Member Clark, carried 6-0, to reconsider the matter for further discussion.

The Committee briefly discussed the matter and requested the applicant submit separate applications for the Avondale Clubhouse and the Avondale Golf Course.

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli

Seconded by: Committee Member Clark

To continue the item to a date uncertain.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS & COMMENTS

8.a CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair McCune reported on the California Foundation conference she attended in May 2024.

8.b CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

None.

8.c CITY STAFF

8.d ATTENDANCE REPORT

Report provided; no action taken on this item.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Resources Preservation Committee adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

10. PUBLIC NOTICES

Michelle Nance, Deputy Clerk
Recording Secretary

Carlos Flores, Principal Planner
Secretary

DATE APPROVED BY CRPC