

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

August 28, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

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

Absent: Vice-Chair Kim Housken

Staff Present: Principal Planner Nick Melloni, Principal Planner Carlos Flores, Recording Secretary Michelle Nance

Liaison(s) Present: City Council Liaison Mayor Pro Tem Jan Harnik

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee was called to order by Chair McCune on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 9:03 a.m., in the Administrative Conference Room, City Hall, located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California.

2. ROLL CALL

3. ELECTION OF THE CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Motion by: Committee Member Mortensen

Seconded by: Committee Member Toltzmann

To elect Chair McCune as Chairperson.

NOES (1): Committee Member Vassalli

Motion Carried (5 to 1)

Motion by: Chair McCune

Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

To elect Committee Member Linda Vassalli as Vice-Chairperson.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

4. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli
Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

To approve the consent calendar as presented.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

5.a APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli
Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

Approve the Minutes of June 26, 2024.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

6. CONSENT ITEMS HELD OVER

None.

7. ACTION CALENDAR

7.a HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT AND SURVEY KICK OFF

Mary Ringhoff, of Architecture Resources Group, narrated a presentation and responded to member inquires.

Feedback provided; no formal action taken on this item.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.a CONSIDER ADOPTING A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION AND APPROVE A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS TO CONSTRUCT A NEW BREEZE BLOCK GARDEN WALL AT AN EXISTING LANDMARK LOCATED AT 72861 EL PASEO

Committee Members Graybill and Toltzmann recused themselves from this item due to their conflict as both Committee Members and Applicants and left the meeting room.

Principal Planner Flores narrated a PowerPoint presentation and responded to members' questions.

Chair McCune opened the public hearing.

Chair McCune closed the public hearing, there being no other member of the public wishing to speak.

Committee Member Mortensen expressed appreciation for the proposed breeze block wall exhibit.

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli
Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

Determine that the requirements of the findings have been met based on the analysis and grants the Certificate of Appropriateness for 72861 El Paseo (APN: 640-220-052) and determine that the project is categorically exempt from the CEQA.

RECUSED (2): Committee Member Graybill, and Committee Member Toltzmann

Motion Carried (4 to 0)

9. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS & COMMENTS

9.a CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Member Clark expressed excitement for the Historical Context Statement and Survey kick off.

Chair McCune, with consensus of the Committee, expressed desire to have education workshops.

9.b CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

Mayor Pro Tem Harnik provided an update on recent approval of the Mills Act update made by City Council in relation to the Committee.

9.c CITY STAFF

Principal Planner Melloni provided an update of the upcoming demolition of a private residence located at 49425 JFK Drive in Palm Desert.

9.d ATTENDANCE REPORT

Report provided; no action taken on this item.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Resources Preservation Committee adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Nance, Deputy Clerk II
Recording Secretary

Carlos Flores, Principal Planner
Secretary

DATE APPROVED BY CRPC