

# Historic Wintersburg Preservation Task Force Minutes

**Monday, September 17, 2012, 2:00 P.M.**

**City Hall, Room B-7 (Lower Level), 2000 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

PRESENT: Council Members Connie Boardman, Matthew Harper, and Joe Shaw; committee members Gloria Alvarez, Sue Gordon, Stacha Khatib, Mary Urashima, Sue Gordon

STAFF: Scott Hess, Ricky Ramos

PUBLIC / ADVISORY: Ken Furuta, Norman Furuta, Elaine Parker

## I. Welcome and Introduction

## II. Goals and purpose of committee:

The ad hoc committee determined the mission to be to pursue preservation of structures at the Historic Wintersburg property and to raise funds regarding the same. It was emphasized that “time is of the essence.” The current property owner’s representative stated they will give the community one year beyond approval of the draft Focused Environmental Impact Report (draft FEIR) to allow for relocation. The time constraints may be 1 ½ years to obtain funding and accomplish preservation.

## III. Preservation fund:

The City has established a dedicated account, the Historic Wintersburg Preservation Fund. A mail and online donation option will be available, with links on the City website and the Task Force’s Facebook page.

A log of donations will be kept, per City financial practices and policies. Subsequent to the meeting, it was confirmed donations may be considered charitable deductions per IRS Code, 26 U.S.C.170(c)(1).

**Historic Wintersburg Preservation Fund  
City of Huntington Beach  
2000 Main Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648  
ATTN: Laurie Frymire**

## IV. Preservation options:

The current California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process was explained. The draft FEIR is expected soon, it may be released Sept. 27. There will be a 45-day public review and comment period. The draft FEIR, General Plan Amendment (GPA) and Zoning Map Amendment (ZMA) will go to the Planning Commission for review. The draft FEIR will only go to the City Council if it is appealed, however the Council will review the GPA AND ZMA.

CEQA requires all options be considered, in situ, relocation or other mitigation to address the environmental impact of the proposed demolition. The Task Force will pursue historic preservation in all these scenarios and consider potential relocation sites.

**The property owner's representative said their future plans include construction of a new administration building at the site (explaining their preference for relocation or demolition).**

V. Possible relocation sites:

**The Task Force discussed the draft matrix of relocation sites and suggestions were made regarding additional locations. Twelve sites within and eight outside the boundaries of Huntington Beach were discussed. Public input will be solicited to determine pros and cons. (See attached matrix)**

VI. Potential funding partners

**The committee reviewed and discussed a list of potential funding partners, both those who can help create awareness and those who may consider funding assistance.**

**A letter has been sent to the Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles to arrange for a site tour and to request his office's assistance in generating awareness in Southern California. Private charitable trusts and organizations will be contacted to determine interest and if the project qualifies.**

VII. Update on public outreach

- **Recent and upcoming media coverage was discussed.**
- **Mary Urashima will be speaking to a class at Golden West College regarding the property's history.**
- **A Facebook page for the Task Force has been established.**
- **Text will be developed for a City web page, with donation information.**
- **Text and graphics will be prepared for a PSA on HBTV.**

VIII. Determine committee member tasks:

- **All Task Force members are responsible for fundraising.**
- **Council Member Joe Shaw will contact Golden West College re: interest in being a relocation site.**
- **Council Member Matt Harper will arrange for a meeting with Supervisor John Moorlach to discuss County sites.**
- **Council Member Boardman will discuss with City administration putting information in the water bill and other public information options.**
- **Gloria Alvarez will contact HBHS alumni who are familiar with local history and know families associated with Wintersburg site.**
- **Mary Urashima will follow up on potential fund raising event, the Consul General invitation, web page and donation materials, and partnerships**

IX. Establish meeting schedule preferences

**Council Members expressed a preference to hold meetings during the day on Council meeting days, to coordinate with their work schedules. The next meeting will be 10 a.m., Monday, Oct. 15.**

**X. Action items – As indicated above; all Task Force members and advisory requested to brainstorm fundraising and outreach ideas.**