

Minutes of the Fortuna Historical Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 11th, 2015 - 6:00 p.m., Fortuna Depot Museum, 3 Park St. at Rohner Park

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair O'Hara called the Public Session to order at 6:00 PM

ROLL CALL:

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Chair Susan O'Hara	City Manager Regan Candelario
Vice Chair Toni Scolari (absent)	Development Services Manager Kevin Carter
Commissioner Jean Giannini	Depot Museum Curator Alex Service
Commissioner Mike Murray	<u>Council Representative</u>
Commissioner Pam Zana	Councilmember Linda Gardner

II. ORAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 14, 2015

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Review and approve minutes of Historical Commission Meeting January 14, 2015

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was heard.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Commission Member Giannini moved, seconded by Member Murray to approve the minutes of January 14, 2015. Voice vote.

AYES: Commission Members Giannini, Murray, Zana, Chair O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commission Member Scolari

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried 4-0

IV. BUSINESS

A. WELCOME NEW COMMISSION MEMBER

Pam Zana is the new Historical Commission member, appointed to complete the unexpired term of Doug Mooney.

B. CITY OF FORTUNA PROJECTS

City Manager Candelario updated the Historical Commission on events in January and February that had city-wide impact, including the January 28 fire that destroyed the historic Star Hotel building, and flooding during the first week of February. Discussion followed of the process and schedule for the Star Hotel building's demolition and the future of the site.

C. ARCADIA BOOK PROJECT

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize expenditure from Fund #165 Museum Exhibits Acquisitions Fund for use of photographs from Humboldt State University Library and Humboldt County Historical Society collections in forthcoming Fortuna Depot Museum publication *Mills of Humboldt County*

STAFF REPORT:

Chair O'Hara and Curator Service reported on the progress of the publishing project and the potential need to purchase images from the HSU Library and HCHS collections.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was heard.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Commission Member Giannini moved, seconded by Member Zana to authorize expenditure of up to \$300 from Fund # 165 on purchase of images for use in forthcoming Depot Museum publication *Mills of Humboldt County*. Voice Vote.

AYES: Commission Members Giannini, Murray, Zana, Chair O'Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commission Member Scolari

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried 4-0

D. FORTUNA MAIN STREET GUIDE BOOK PROJECT

Curator Service discussed with the Commission ideas for a local publication on the buildings of Fortuna's historic Main Street, inspired by the loss of the Star Hotel. Potential funding sources suggested by Commission Members include the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Native Sons/Daughters of the Golden West, the Fortuna Rodeo Commission, Hops in Humboldt, the McLean Foundation, the Rotary Club and the Soroptomists. The possibility was also discussed of working with the Humboldt County Historical Society on this project.

E. MUSEUM SECURITY UPDATE

Curator Service updated the Commission on several recent false alarm security call-outs. Advanced Security personnel have made two repair visits. Among the steps they have taken are cleaning the security sensors, isolating the caboose as a separate zone, and replacing the wire leading to the caboose security sensor.

F. DEPOT MUSEUM ADVERTISING

Curator Service reported to the Commission that the Humboldt County Historical Society's advertising rate of \$75 per ad for each issue of the quarterly *Humboldt Historian* newsletter is more than would be covered by the advertising line item of the Depot Museum's budget. She has discussed this with HCHS staff, and the HCHS is including a brief informational article on the Depot Museum's summer opening hours in the summer issue of the *Historian*.

G. REPLACEMENT OF UV-FILTERING FILM ON DEPOT MUSEUM WINDOWS

Curator Service and Development Services Manager Carter reported that records kept by Lead Park Maintenance Worker Pierre Cousineau show the 3M UV-filtering film was installed in 2004. The 10-year warranty has now expired, but Cousineau was informed by 3M personnel that the film should be effective for approximately 12-15 years from installation. The film was installed only in the front two rooms, and was not installed on the upper window panes. Manager Carter recommended that an estimate be obtained for installing film in those areas not previously covered, and that this expense be included in the upcoming budget.

H. BACKUP STORAGE OPTIONS FOR MUSEUM FILES

Curator Service was directed to further investigate the options and report at the next meeting. One possibility discussed was to back up files onto thumb drives and store them in a safe at City Hall.

I. ACCESSIONS/DE-ACCESSIONS

Curator Service updated the Commission on the de-accession which was approved at the January 14, 2015 meeting. The donor thanked the Commission for their approval of his de-accession request. On further consideration, he has decided that the donated item (the framed January 1800 newspaper reporting on the death of George Washington) should remain part of the Fortuna Depot Museum collection.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Review and approve accession of proposed items into Fortuna Depot Museum collection

STAFF REPORT:

Curator Service presented the following items for accession into the Fortuna Depot Museum collection: **From Deborah Baskette:** Postcards, photographs, a program, a hand-written diary and other ephemera related to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915. **From the Humboldt County Historical Society:** Early 20th-century sheet music and other ephemera de-accessioned from the HCHS collection. **From North Coast Repertory Theatre:** PALCO and Humboldt Grassfed Beef baseball caps, *Official Miniature View Book* from 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition, 1924 *Handy Guide for Painting*, 1954 Girl Scout handbook, 1962 booklet *Scotia: Home of the Pacific Lumber Company*, commemorative button from 2011 Fernbridge centennial. **From Susan O’Hara:** 1930s “Little Orphan Annie” Ovaltine cup. **From Leslie Laughter:** railroad date nails from 1930, 1933 and 1935. **From Leon Warmuth:** 1950 thesis by Charles Robert Farrar, *Growth and Development of Fortuna, California to 1906*. **From Bob Brock:** 2 Bank of America deposit bags, photo album on 1940s Fortuna-area chinchilla farm. **From Dennis and Lauren Correll-Finley:** 1 pair women’s late 19th-century/early 20th-century shoes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was heard.

COMMISSION ACTION:

Commission Member Mike Murray moved, seconded by Member Giannini, to approve the proposed accessions to the Fortuna Depot Museum collection. Voice Vote.

AYES: Commission Members Giannini, Murray, Zana, Chair O’Hara

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commission Member Scolari

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried 4-0

V. REPORTS

A. CHAIR REPORT

Chair O’Hara expressed her excitement over the progress of the museum’s forthcoming Arcadia publication.

B. RECREATION OFFICE SUPERVISOR REPORT

City Manager Candelario introduced Development Services Manager Kevin Carter, who has been appointed supervisor for the Parks and Recreation Department and will be attending the Historical Commission meetings. There will be some restructuring of the interface between the Depot Museum and other City departments, including a revised schedule for Depot Museum bank deposits and the need to better publicize the Fortuna Historical Commission meetings. Manager Candelario also reported on the upcoming installation of a removable speed bump outside the museum, due to the seriousness of the speeding problem in Rohner Park.

C. CURATOR REPORT

a. Curator Service led a brief discussion of the Staff Report for January—February 2015

D. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commission Member Zana: Expressed her happiness over joining the Historical Commission; she is glad to be here, finds the work of the Commission very interesting and hopes she can be of help. **Commission Member Giannini:** Expressed the ongoing need to increase the Depot Museum’s visibility on the City of Fortuna website. **Commission Member Murray:** Reported on a group tour of the museum that he conducted for the Fortuna Senior Center.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Commission Member Mike Murray moved to adjourn, seconded by Member Giannini. Voice Vote. Motion Carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted by:
Alex Service, Fortuna Depot Museum Curator
Thru: Linda McGill, City Clerk