

City of Fresno

*City Hall
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, December 23, 2024

6:00 PM

Regular Meeting

City Hall, Council Chambers

Historic Preservation Commission

Chair - James Sponsler

Vice Chair - Jason Hatwig

Commissioner - Paul Halajian

Commissioner - Julie Federico

Commissioner - Elizabeth Laval

Commissioner - Sarah E. Johnston

Commissioner - Ryan Eddings

Staff:

Jennifer Clark, Director; Ashley Atkinson, Assistant Director;

Lisha Chen, Historic Preservation Specialist; Janice Monroe, M.A. II

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION WELCOMES YOU TO COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED IN CITY HALL, 2600 FRESNO STREET, FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93721.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Any interested person may appear at the public hearing and present written testimony or speak in favor or against the matters scheduled on the agenda. Public participation during Fresno City Historic Preservation Commission meetings is always encouraged and can occur by attending a meeting in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 2nd Floor, 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93721. When called to speak during a meeting, you may approach the speaker podium upon the Chair's call for additional public comment.

All public speakers will have up to 3 minutes to address the Commission pursuant to Rule No. 13 of the Historic Preservation Commission Bylaws of the City of Fresno (available in the City Clerk's Office).

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1. Community Media Access Collaborative website: <https://cmac.tv/>

2. Cable Television: Comcast Channel 96 and AT&T Channel 99

3. Participate Remotely via Zoom using the following link:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cAUGIBe2SYygn3isiCuy4w

a. The above link will allow you to register in advance for remote participation in the meeting via the Zoom platform. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing additional details about joining the meeting.

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I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Sponsler called meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Also present were Jennifer Clark, Ashley Atkinson, Lisha Chen, & Janice Monroe.

Present 5 - Chair James W Sponsler, Vice Chair Jason Hatwig, Commissioner Paul Halajian, Commissioner Sarah Johnston, and Commissioner Ryan Eddings

Absent 2 - Commissioner Julie Federico, and Commissioner Elizabeth Laval

II. PROCEDURES - PROCEDIMIENTOS - KEV SAB LAJ

6:01pm

Chair Sponsler read the procedures aloud.

III. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

III-A [ID 24-1498](#) October 28, 2024 Historic Preservation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

6:02pm

Monroe reported no changes to the minutes.

On motion of Commissioner Halajian, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, that the above Action Item be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Sponsler, Vice Chair Hatwig, Commissioner Halajian, Commissioner Johnston and Commissioner Eddings

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Federico and Commissioner Laval

IV. APPROVE AGENDA

6:03pm

Monroe reported no changes to the agenda.

On motion of Vice Chair Hatwig, seconded by Commissioner Halajian, the AGENDA was APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Sponsler, Vice Chair Hatwig, Commissioner Halajian, Commissioner Johnston and Commissioner Eddings

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Federico and Commissioner Laval

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

V-A [ID 24-1466](#) Consideration of the Fresno City Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2025

On motion of Commissioner Halajian, seconded by Vice Chair Hatwig, that the above Action Item be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Sponsler, Vice Chair Hatwig, Commissioner Halajian, Commissioner Johnston and Commissioner Eddings

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Federico and Commissioner Laval

VI. CONTINUED MATTERS

N/A

VII. COMMISSION ITEMS

VII-A [ID 24-1265](#) 2025 Priorities for Survey Updates

6:04pm

Clark briefly introduced the item and Atkinson went into further detail on the viable funding options and plan to work in-house on the surveys. She also explained the expected timeline.

Hatwig noted that the properties would come before the Commission even if they were not in the district officially and emphasized the importance of moving the Hitching Post District up on the list.

The Commission discussed the choice of whether or not Blackstone Corridor or Hitching Post Districts should be moved to the second priority

When Sponsler asked Chen what she needed from the Commission to pursue the Historic Districts she responded with because she is not local their oral histories of intangible value would be helpful.

Halajian suggested using valuable resources outside of the Commission, offering to reach out and make some connections/requests.

Sponsler requested Staff add an action item on the next agenda to alter the priority list, moving Hitching Post to the number two slot and shifting the remaining list down one. He also would like an ad hoc subcommittee for the Blackstone Corridor Historic District.

- VII-B** [ID 24-1499](#) Monthly update on the Jose Garcia Brewer Adobe Building, HP #227 located at 5901 W. Shaw (APN 51004038).

6:32pm

Chen reported a new tarp has be installed but that the conditions do not meet the necessary standard. She has reached out to Code Enforcement and they are starting the abatement process.

Staff explained to the Commission how this phase will work financially and clarified the scope of work now that the City has to take on the work. Clark explained that if anyone applies to modify the conditions of approval that it would come back to the Commission.

Johnston asked why the plan is removal and not protecting the walls on site and Staff explained the current condition combined with feasibility limited their options.

Halajian suggested salvaging as much as possible to have extra parts available when trying to reinstall the two walls and Staff supported the plan.

Sponsler stated that his goal in 2025 is to pursue a plan to address demolition by neglect in the future.

- VII-C** [ID 24-1513](#)

UPDATE on Regular Monthly Topics:

1. Staff Updates
2. Proposed Historic Districts
3. Architectural Review Subcommittee Updates
4. Plaque Design Subcommittee Update
5. Economic Incentive Subcommittee Update

6:45pm

Chen talked about the Planning entitlements, Building Permits, and 106 reviews that came through Historic Preservation since the last meeting in October. She also reported closing out two Mitigation Grant applications.

Hatwig talked about the Roessler Winery project they have been reviewing in the Architectural Review Subcommittee and Halajian added they reviewed a window replacement at a residence on L St.

Sponsler talked about a Plaque Subcommittee meeting with the Farm Workers' team about the ongoing monument project. He mentioned a goal of having a digital system tracking all historic properties and monuments.

VIII. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

6:53pm

Sponsler reported being reached out from FAA on the Traffic Control Tower and responding in a letter about the available options. The draft is currently being reviewed by Staff and will be submitted upon finalization.

He went on to add he has a gift for Commissioners in a future meeting and that next year is the 140th year of the City of Fresno.

IX. UNSCHEDULED ITEMS

6:56pm

There were no unscheduled items.

IX. - A. Members of the Commission

IX. - B. Staff

IX. - C. General Public

X. NEXT MEETING

1/27/2025

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:57pm.

