MINUTES: of a special joint meeting of the City Council, Planning Commission, and Historic and Scenic Preservation Commission of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on February 28, 2012 at 5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Pete Aguilar, Mayor
Paul Foster, Mayor Pro Tem
Jon Harrison, Councilmember
Jerry Bean, Councilmember
Bob Gardner, Councilmember
Gary Miller, Chairman, Planning Commission
Carol Dyer, Commissioner
Conrad Guzkowski, Commissioner
Jan Hudson, Commissioner
John James, Commissioner
Ken Jeske, Commissioner
Julie Rynerson Rock, Commissioner
David Van Deist, Chairman, Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission
Liz Beguelin, Commissioner
Judith Hunt, Commissioner
Don McCue, Commissioner
Shan McNaughton, Commissioner
Matt Millett, Commissioner

ABSENT: Geneil Vines, Historic & Scenic Preservation Commissioner

STAFF: Enrique Martinez, City Manager; Dan McHugh, City Attorney; Sam Irwin, City Clerk; Carl Baker, Public Information Officer; David Hexem, Chief Information Officer; Fred Mousavi, Interim Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director; Fred Cardenas, Quality of Life Director; Oscar Ori, Development Services Director; Debbie Scott-Leistra, Human Resources Director

HISTORIC PRESERVATION WORKSHOP:

Mayor Aguilar called the City Council meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. and deferred to Chairmen Miller and Van Diest to call their respective commissions to order.

Historical Society Presentation – As an introduction to the workshop, Ron Running, Vice President of the Redlands Area Historical Society, provided an overview of historic preservation efforts in Redlands. He discussed the efforts in other cities to protect resources determined to be important to the heritage of the respective communities and highlighted technological advances which should enhance identification, tracking and measurement of progress in historic preservation. The City of Redlands currently has 5,000 buildings over 50 years
old, of which approximately 1,200 have been surveyed as to their historical significance.

Conservancy Led Discussion – Sherli Leonard, Executive Director of the Redlands Conservancy, acted as facilitator to stimulate discussion in the workshop. Topics and areas of emphasis included the impact of historic preservation on the community, the use of a city’s historic identity to leverage economic development, adaptive reuse of historic resources, the impact of the dissolution of the Redevelopment Agency on preservation efforts, ways to measure the success or failure of historic preservation, the use of volunteer groups, Certified Local Governments, and the use of technology.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Redevelopment – Steve Rogers read from a paper entitled “What to Do Now after Redevelopment?” He called for a new approach to development planning.

Student Involvement – Al Kelley described what made him move to Redlands and encouraged student involvement in the historic preservation process.

Survey Volunteer – Kathleen Beall told of her experience performing historic resource surveys in 1976 and volunteered to do it again.

Economic Approach – Amanda Frye identified ways to utilize the work already done to preserve historic resources and change mindsets without spending a lot of money.

Another Kind of Preservation – Pamela Smyth reminded those present of the importance of the scenery around Redlands and made an appeal to keep scenic preservation as a goal.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Aguilar summed up the evening by listing categories for the needs identified during the workshop: inventory, education and incentives. Impacting the categories, and crucial to the success of our historic and scenic preservation efforts, are our values, our staffing, our budget and our measurement systems. Mayor Pro Tem Foster thanked everyone involved in producing the workshop and all those in attendance. He said he hopes to institutionalize the gathering on at least an annual basis and he looks forward to future discussions on the topic. There being no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 6:52 P.M. The Council will reconvene at their regular meeting, also on March 6, 2012, at 5:00 P.M.