

CITY OF ARCADIA

Historic Preservation Commission Regular Meeting Agenda



Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 6:45 p.m.

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CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Marilynne Wilander, Chair
Domenico Tallerico, Vice Chair
David Arvizu, Commissioner
Angela Hui, Commissioner
Vincent Tsoi, Commissioner

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FROM STAFF REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENTS (5 minute time limit per person)

Each speaker is limited to five (5) minutes per person, unless waived by the Historic Preservation Commission. Under the Brown Act, the Commission or Board Members are prohibited from discussing or taking action on any item not listed on the posted agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and can be acted on by one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Commission, staff, or the public request that specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action.

1. Minutes of the October 8, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission

Recommendation: Approve

ADJOURNMENT

The Historic Preservation Commission will adjourn and bring this meeting to a close.



**ARCADIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER Vice Chair Tallerico called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vice Chair Tallerico, Commissioners Arvizu, Hui, and Tsoi

ABSENT: Chair Wilander

It was moved by Commissioner Arvizu and seconded by Commissioner Hui to excuse Chair Wilander from the meeting.

Without objection, the motion was approved.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FROM STAFF REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (5 minute time limit per person)

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARING

- 1. Resolution No. 2156**– Review of Historical Landmark No. HL 24-01 to designate the Earle L. and Mady G. Brod House that was designed by the Master Architect Richard Neutra as a historical landmark with a categorical exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) at 1203 Oakwood Drive

CEQA: Exempt

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2156 Recommending that the City Council Approve the Historical Landmark

Applicant: Chris Karlen

MOTION - PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Chair Tallerico introduced the item and Senior Planner Edwin Arreola presented the staff report.

Commissioner Tsoi arrived at 6:08 p.m.

The Commissioners had no questions for staff.

The public hearing was opened.

Chris Karlen introduced himself and his wife Ella as the property owners and said they purchased the property in December 2023 from the Papp family, who owned the house for over 60 years and hoped the new owners would preserve the house and its history. Given that he is a fan of

Richard Neutra's work he decided to purchase the house and pursue historic designation to preserve its historic significance.

Commissioner Arvizu asked if he had intentions to change the exterior of the house.

Mr. Karlen stated that he did not plan to make changes to the exterior of the house.

Commissioner Arvizu asked him about the landscaping and if he planned to do anything that will alter the appearance of the exterior of the house.

Mr. Karlen said that he took down all the trees that covered the house and plan to install some new landscaping that is typically fit with mid-century homes, including drought-tolerant plants and trees.

Commissioner Arvizu asked if he had been in contact with the Highlands Homeowner's Association.

Mr. Karlen said no, he did not.

Commissioner Arvizu informed him that he was one of the City's Homeowner's Associations and that he needs to get any major landscaping plans approved by the Architectural Review Board through the short review process.

Commissioner Tsoi asked if he came across any original plans of the house.

Mr. Karlen said yes, the historian Barbara Lamprecht, came across plans and documents archived at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Commissioner Tsoi informed the Applicant that he was glad to see that his house could qualify for state and national historic designation.

Commissioner Hui asked the Applicant why he chose to pursue historic designation.

Mr. Karlen said it is important to him that its historical significance lives on forever.

Commissioner Hui asked if any alterations need to be discussed with the City in addition to the ARB due to its historic designation.

Ms. Flores explained that a Certificate of Appropriateness will be required if the owner proposes any alterations to the exterior of the house.

Commissioner Tsoi asked what the process is for the Mills Act.

Ms. Flores explained that the Applicant can apply for the Mills Act after property has been designated, but it will be before the Planning Commission, and then subject to the City Council's approval. She added that the Mills Act is a 10-year contract that offers the property owner a tax break and financial assistance with exterior alterations.

The Commissioners did not have any further questions for the Applicant.

No one spoke in favor of the proposal.

No one spoke in opposition to the proposal.

Commissioner Arvizu made a motion to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Commissioner Hui.

Without objection, the public hearing was closed.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Tsoi stated that this is a significant moment for the City and expressed his strong support for the Applicant's efforts to pursue historic designation. He noted that Neutra-designed houses are a rare architectural treasure, and achieving state and national recognition would be a wonderful opportunity to preserve this important piece of history.

Commissioner Arvizu shared that he had concerns about the property being redeveloped when it went on the market in 2023, but he was pleased to learn that the new owners are committed to preserving its historical integrity and maintaining its original form. He expressed excitement about seeing the final result and wished the property owners the best of luck in their efforts.

Vice Chair Tallerico shared that he knew the previous owners and considered himself fortunate to have had the opportunity to tour the house. He expressed his agreement with the Commission's views and also extended his best wishes to the property owner for their efforts.

Commissioner Hui said this was a significant example of Mid-Century Modern architecture with distinctive characteristics and supports this proposal.

MOTION

It was moved by Commissioner Tsoi, seconded by Commissioner Arvizu to adopt Resolution No. 2156 recommending the City Council approve Historical Landmark No. HL 24-01 to designate the Earle L. and Mady G. Brod House that was designed by the Master Architect Richard Neutra as a historical landmark with a categorical exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) at 1203 Oakwood Drive in which the findings were made.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Vice Chair Tallerico, Commissioners Arvizu, Hui, and Tsoi

NOES: None

ABSENT: Vice Chair Wilander

The motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m. to a close.

Chair Wilander, Historic Preservation Commission

ATTEST: _____
Lisa L. Flores
Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission