



GRASS VALLEY

Special Joint City Council and Historical Commission Meeting

Tuesday, April 09, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Council Chambers, Grass Valley City Hall | 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, California

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AGENDA

Any person with a disability who requires accommodations to participate in this meeting should telephone the City Clerk's office at (530)274-4390, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to make a request for a disability related modification or accommodation.

MEETING NOTICE

The City Council and the Historical Commission welcomes you to attend the meetings electronically or in person at the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 125 E. Main St., Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Members of the public are encouraged to submit public comments via voicemail at (530) 274-4390 and email to public@cityofgrassvalley.com. Comments will be reviewed and distributed before the meeting if received by 4 pm. Comments received after that will be addressed during the item and/or at the end of the meeting. The Council and Commission will have the option to modify their action on items based on comments received. Action may be taken on any agenda item.

Agenda materials, staff reports, and background information related to regular agenda items are available on the City's website: www.cityofgrassvalley.com. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Council and Commission after distribution of the agenda packet will be made available on the City of Grass Valley website at www.cityofgrassvalley.com, subject to City staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

Please note, individuals who disrupt, disturb, impede, or render infeasible the orderly conduct of a meeting will receive one warning that, if they do not cease such behavior, they may be removed from the meeting. The chair has authority to order individuals removed if they do not cease their disruptive behavior following this warning. No warning is required before an individual is removed if that individual engages in a use of force or makes a true threat of force. (Gov. Code, § 54957.95.)

Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible and listening devices are available. Other special accommodations may be requested to the City Clerk 72 hours in advance of the meeting by calling (530) 274-4390, we are happy to accommodate.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Historical Commission Roles and Responsibilities
CEQA: Not a Project

Recommendation: Receive and File

2. Operation of the Historical Commission
CEQA: Not a Project.

Recommendation: That Council direct staff on how to proceed with the operation of the Historical Commission.

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POSTING NOTICE

This is to certify that the above notice of a Special Joint meeting of the City Council and the Historical Commission, scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 4:00 PM was posted at City Hall, easily accessible to the public, as of 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 5, 2024.

Taylor Day, City Clerk



City of Grass Valley City Council/Historical Commission Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Historical Commission Roles and Responsibilities

CEQA: Not a Project

Recommendation: Receive and File

Prepared by: Amy Wolfson, City Planner

Council Meeting Date: 04/09/2024

Date Prepared: 04/04/2024

Agenda: Administrative

Background Information:

The Grass Valley Historical Commission currently has two vacancies on its 5-member commission. Two of the three sitting commissioners began their appointments in June 2023. Due to canceled meetings, the commission has only convened a handful of times since their appointments. While we had hoped to have two additional appointees on the commission by now, it is appropriate to go over the Commission's Roles and Responsibilities as we move forward into 2024 and the remaining terms of the commissioners' appointments.

Roles and Responsibilities:

The Grass Valley Historical Commission (GVHC) duties are outlined in Section 7.52.040 of the Municipal Code, and in the "Rules and Regulations (By-Laws)" document updated and adopted by City Council in June 2018. Many of the responsibilities require infrequent action such as district or guideline changes. In summary, the GVHC role includes recommendations for updates to the Historic District Design Guidelines and the Historic District boundary, as needed, recommendations on historical landmark resources, recommendation on buildings to be included in the historic resources inventory as they achieve historic status through time, promote public awareness of cultural resources within the city, and review projects referred to them by staff or another review body.

In terms of staff referrals, it has been staff's practice to request recommendations from the Historical Commission on projects that involve exterior alterations of buildings that are rated as Priority 1 or 2 on the historic resources inventory. Staff views this role as vital for protecting the integrity of the Historic District and implementing the Historic District Design Guidelines. As such, action in this capacity is required more frequently than some of the other GVHC duties.

Council Goals/Objectives: The execution of this action attempts to achieve Strategic Goal #5 - High Performance Government and Quality Service.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Funds Available: N/A

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by: Tim Kiser, City Manager **Attachments:** None



City of Grass Valley City Council/Historical Commission Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Operation of the Historical Commission

CEQA: Not a Project.

Recommendation: That Council direct staff on how to proceed with the operation of the Historical Commission.

Prepared by: Taylor Day, Deputy City Manager I

Council Meeting Date: 04/09/2024

Date Prepared: 04/04/2024

Agenda: Administrative

Background Information:

The purpose of this staff report is to evaluate the future role of the Historical Commission and present potential options for consideration. The Historical Commission plays a crucial role in preserving the historical heritage and for potentially improving the project review process. However, it has become more difficult over the years to find qualified commissioners for the position. There have been suggestions to look at potentially restructuring of the commission to improve effectiveness and streamline review of local development projects. It has been staff's observation that deliberations amongst the review bodies, particularly the Historical Commission and the Development Review Committee (DRC), have redundant conversations about historical integrity and both bodies might benefit from a shared deliberation. Staff have identified three possible options for consideration: 1) continuation of the current operations of the Historical Commission with ongoing solicitation of commissioners, 2) dissolving of the Historical Commission and transferring their responsibilities to the Development Review Committee (DRC), or 3) merging the Historical Commission with the DRC. Staff is seeking input from Council on how to move forward with the best path for the Historical Commission.

Council Goals/Objectives: The execution of this action attempts to achieve Strategic Goal #5 - High Performance Government and Quality Service.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Funds Available: N/A

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by: Tim Kiser, City Manager **Attachments:** None