MINUTES

1.0 Call to Order
Chair Hendon called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag — The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Hendon.

3.0 Roll Call - Commissioners Present: Chair Hendon (MAL), , Hohenadl (I), Williamson (II), Lech (II), Lindquist (III), Farnbach (III), Phillips (IV), and Spencer (V); Absent: Vice Chair Atkins (I), Porter (IV), and Worden (V); Park District Staff Present: Herron, Luciano, and Kruse.

4.0 Approval of Minutes – Action
The minutes from the February 19, 2015 meeting were approved as printed. (M/S/C Spencer/Lindquist)

5.0 Special Recognition

6.0 Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission – None

7.0 Subcommittee Reports
7.1 Publications Subcommittee – Information
Journal Marketing
Keith Herron, Resources Bureau Chief
BC Herron reported the progress of ‘Riverside Chronicles’ marketing efforts as discussed at the August meeting. While there has been an increase in public interest, subscriptions have not increased.

7.2 Archives Commission – Information
Steve Lech – Commission Member
CM Lech will not be able to attend the Archives commission meetings due to his appointment on the City Cultural Heritage Board. CM Lech reported that the Archives Commission met in March 2015. During the meeting, there was discussion of the possibility of a joint workshop between the Historical Commission and Archives Commission. The Archives Commission voiced an interest in a joint effort for the planning of the 125th County of Riverside celebration. The next Archives Commission meeting will be on July 15, 2015.

8.0 Old Business
8.1 Ideas to Republish the County of Riverside’s Landmark Book – Discussion
Steve Lech, Commission Member
CM Lech proposed various locations for potential landmarks. Discussion was held about publication issues, designs, authoring, editing and various other proposals for a 125th
Anniversary book. BC Herron discussed errors in the numeration of landmark sites and will make corrections as necessary. BC Herron will place a RFP for a designer of the book.

8.2 Local History Awards August Announcement – Discussion
Steve Lech, Commission Member
Job Code: 2015-4
CM Lech proposed that the process for new nominations for History Awards begin in August. There will be an additional “Preservation Award.” Nomination form has been modified to include the preservation award. Nomination ballots are currently posted on the website. Commissioners should turn in nominations by mid-January so the subcommittee can finalize details for the May meeting. BC Herron agreed to send email notification the subcommittee to remind members of actions that need to be taken.

8.3 Digitizing the County of Riverside’s Architectural Survey and Landmarks into the County’s GIS database – Report
Keith Herron, Resources Bureau Chief
BC Herron reports that there are roughly 2000 historic survey files that can be digitized to create a GIS layer for the public to access information about any historical site’s existence and significance. Digitization would include scanning and creating a GIS layer and is estimated to cost $15,000-$20,000. Discussion was had about which files would be appropriate for digitization. BC Herron will contact the various cities and County Planning and make an action item for the next meeting.

8.4 Approve Budget Proposal for County’s 125th Anniversary Celebration Ideas – Action
Steve Lech, Commission Member
Job Code: 2015-4a

The Commission tentatively approved the Historical Commission suggested $10,000 budget proposal for the 125th Anniversary celebration. (M/S/C Lindquist/Farnbach)

9.0 New Business

9.1 Election of Chair of the Historical Commission for 2015/16 – Action
Job Code: 2015-5
Due to by-laws, BC Herron requested this item be moved to the August 20th meeting.

9.2 Election of Vice Chair of the Historical Commission for 2015/16 – Action
Job Code: 2015-6
Due to by-laws, BC Herron requested this item be moved to the August 20th meeting.

9.3 Preservation of former Navy Hospital in Norco – Discussion/Action
Don Williamson, Commission Member
Job Code: 2015-7
One person spoke on the matter: Kevin Bash

Navy Hospital in Norco is the last standing WWII naval hospital that is entirely intact and the last and maybe only standing building from Architect Claud Beelman complex in the world. It is also where wheelchair basketball was invented.

BC Herron will determine the person/agency to write to on the State Historic Preservation to invite to a Historical Commission meeting to the Norcorion.
CM Williamson made a motion for BC Herron to send a letter seeking input from the SHPO’s Office regarding the Naval Weapon Center. (M/S/C Williamson/Hohenadl)

9.4 Historic Plaques on Riverside County Historic Landmarks – Discussion
Don Williamson, Commission Member
CM Williamson discussed the necessity for repair of historic plaques on Riverside County landmarks. BC Herron advised that a survey would need to be done to determine which plaques would need to be replaced, method to replace, and cost. BC Herron recommends that this project be done in conjunction of the 125th anniversary. BC Herron will work with CM Williamson on material and CM Lech on the survey.

10.0 Commissioners’ Reports – Information
District I
CM Atkins did not attend the meeting.

CM Hohenadl reported that the historical site marking for Mary J. McDonald Gazebo and the creative art works of John Serro will be on May 30th from 11:30 – 1pm. 4/30/15. Lake Elsinore Historical Society had a ribbon cutting ceremony and reception for the reopening of the museum. The Valley of the Mist Chapter, National Society Colonial Dames 17th Century had a historical marking ceremony for the Winchester Community Unity Methodist Church. There is now a Sun City Historic Preservation Project under the guidance of the Sun City Civic Association Board.

District II
CM Williamson had nothing to report.

CM Lech reported that the Symposium on March 7th at Highland Springs had 127 people in attendance. Next year’s Symposium will be at Murrieta Hot Springs on May 7th. Historic Highway 395 signs are being posted by the city. There will be a talk about Henry Jeckle on June 7th and Riverside International Raceway on October 6th. CM Lech is trying to get a list of Historical Commissioners from the past few years; the committee is approaching their 50th year anniversary.

District III
Chair Hendon reported that the new County Courthouse opened in Banning a few weeks ago. CM Hendon mentioned a Facebook page he wanted everyone to take a look at: “You know you’re from Banning and Beaumont when...”

CM Farnbach reported that the Historic Vail Ranch Headquarters site will be completed in December 2015.

CM Lindquist reported he attended the Ramona play, which was different than in the past with lots of fireworks and drama in the play this year. Things are looking good in the Hemet/San Jacinto area; there is a lot going on.

District IV
CM Porter did not attend the meeting.

CM Phillips reported that the City of Palm Springs held a celebration for National Preservation Month and held a symposium on “The Art of Preservation: Is it Worth It?” Information booths were set up by various history and preservation societies and committees. Cabot’s Pueblo Museum held their Annual Gala. Heritage Festival was at Coachella Valley History Museum in March.
District V
CM Spencer reported on planned events at the Gilman Ranch. On May 30 and 31, 2015, Wild West Days will be held at Gilman Ranch with several activities planned.

The Gilman Ranch Hands will host a dinner from 6:00-8:00 pm at Johnny Russo’s restaurant in Banning; there will be a guest speaker (Bill Bell). These dinners will continue every other month through January 2016. Johnny Russo’s is located at 1335 West Ramsey Street, Banning, CA.

The utility vehicle at Gilman Ranch was stolen and RivCoParks has replaced it.

CM Worden did not attend the meeting.

11.0 Park District Status Report – Information
11.1 Update on historic CIP projects and other items of interest.
Keith Herron, Resources Bureau Chief
The Lawler Lodge Historic building assessment will be complete within the next two weeks. JAG Architect was selected as the firm to handle the project.

11.2 Update on the collections inventory at Jensen Ranch and Gilman Ranch – Information
Laura Kruse, Museum Curator
Ms. Kruse reported that she continues to attend training through PastPerfect. She continues to make progress toward the number of entries in the inventory. Ms. Kruse will be working on it putting together a plan for handling and cleaning artifacts and the collections space as well as guidelines for handling artifacts and researching the guidelines for cleaning up according to the Center for Disease Control. Ms. Kruse’s last day with the District is July 8, 2015.

12.0 Next meeting – The next meeting will be held on August 20, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. at Idyllwild Nature Center, 25225 Highway 243, Idyllwild, CA 92549.

13.0 Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m. (M/S/C Hohenadl/Lech)

Keith Herron, Resources Bureau Chief
Secretary to the Historical Commission