

**SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES**  
**(Action Items Displayed in Italics)**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 — 10:00 a.m.**

**I. ROLL CALL**

*Chair Yauger, Vice-Chair Sarkis, and Commissioners Chinn, Gossett, Harrell, Johannes, Richonne, Senft, Skorpanich, and Thoms were present. Commissioners Remnet and Taylor were absent.*

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission and are not contained in today's agenda.

*Rick Muth, representative of the Muth family, spoke of the reason his family name is used with the center. He gave a brief family history and welcomed the Commission to the center.*

*Heather Cieslak, staff with the Newport Bay Conservancy, welcomed Commissioners to the Muth Interpretive Center and gave a brief history of the center and the surrounding area.*

**III. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A)**

The following item(s) on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Commissioner requests to pull a specific item.

**A. APPROVE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 6, 2024 MEETING.**

*Motion: Commissioner Richonne  
2nd: Commissioner Gossett  
Approved 10-0*

**IV. STAFF UPDATE (ITEM(S) A)**

**A. CULTURAL RESOURCES OPERATIONS FACILITY UPDATE.**

Staff will give an update on the recent happenings within the Cultural Resources Operations at historical facilities.

*Dennis Shaffer, OC Parks Operations Manager, provided a brief report on the ongoing HVAC project at the Old Orange County Courthouse.*

**V. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A-D)**

**A. COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2024–2025 AD-HOC COMMITTEE**

The Chair will discuss the creation of a limited-duration ad-hoc committee to assist in discussion and development of the Commission Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

1. Recommend the Chair establish the Orange County Historical Commission Fiscal Year 2024–2025 Budget Ad-Hoc Committee with a dissolution date of December 31, 2024.
2. Recommend the Chair select up to three Commissioners to serve on the Orange County Historical Commission Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Ad-Hoc Committee until the designated dissolution date.

*Chair Yauger established the Orange County Historical Commission Fiscal Year 2024–2025 Budget Ad-Hoc Committee and appointed Commissioners Senft, Skorpanich, and Gossett to it with a dissolution date of December 31, 2024.*

**B. AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR DRAFTING LETTER TOWARDS THE GENERAL PLAN**

The Chair will discuss the creation of a limited-duration ad-hoc committee to assist in the creation of a letter to OC Public Works in support of OC history in the County of Orange’s General Plan.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

1. Recommend the Chair establish the General Plan Letter Ad-Hoc Committee with a dissolution date of December 31, 2024.
2. Recommend the Chair select up to three Commissioners to serve on the General Plan Letter Ad-Hoc Committee until the designated dissolution date.

*Item was continued and will be discussed at the Commission’s next scheduled meeting.*

**C. COMMISSIONER ROLES DISCUSSION**

Commissioners will provide updates on the latest developments or request input from the Commission in their assigned roles.

1. Administrative – Vacant

*No report.*

2. Arden – Harrell

*No report.*

3. Cooper Center – Gossett

*No report.*

4. Grants – Remnet

*No report.*

5. Heritage Hill – Taylor

*No report.*

6. Historic Preservationist – Chinn

*Commissioner Chinn reported that he will be attending the upcoming National Preservation Conference.*

7. OC Archives – Skorpanich

*No report.*

8. Oral History – Remnet

*No report.*

9. Plaque Program – Thoms

*Commissioner Thoms requested an update on the status of the policies and procedures from OC Parks. Vice-Chair Sarkis informed other Commissioners about a product he found which seems to be a good cleaner and helps preserve bronze plaques placed by National Parks called “Sharkhide”.*

10. Publications – Richonne

*Commissioner Richonne showed a draft of the newsletter and requested photos from the other Commissioners.*

11. Public Events – Johannes

*Commissioner Johannes updated on the progress for the upcoming Networking Event.*

12. Treasurer – Senft

*No report.*

**D. PETER AND MARY MUTH INTERPRETIVE CENTER TOUR**

The Upper Newport Bay’s Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center, located in the County’s premier nature preserve of Upper Newport Bay, features the area’s natural beauty within a state-of-the-art facility. Considered a “critical estuary” habitat - Upper Newport Bay is one of the most pristine remaining estuaries in Southern California. This tour will showcase the interpretive center and how it helps visitors better learn about and appreciate the Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve.

*Heather Cieslak, Newport Bay Conservancy Operations Director, led Commissioners on a tour of the Interpretive Center and answered the Commissioners’ questions.*

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file.

**VI. COMMISSION COMMENTS AND REPORT**

At this time Commissioners may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters and ask questions of or give direction to staff, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT 11:24 a.m.**