

## Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board May 12, 2025, Meeting Agenda

### County of Ventura • Resource Management Agency

800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1740 • (805) 654-2478 • [www.vcrma.org/divisions/planning](http://www.vcrma.org/divisions/planning)

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, May 12, 2025, at **1:15 p.m.** the Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board (CHB) will convene for a public meeting to be held at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009, Lower Plaza Assembly Room. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

### **PROVIDING PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments may be provided using the following options: (1) e-mail public comment in advance of the meeting; and/or (2) in-person public comment.

**Option 1** – If you wish to make a comment on a specific item in advance of the meeting, please submit your comment for that item via email by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing to Dillan Murray, staff, via email at [Dillan.Murray@Ventura.org](mailto:Dillan.Murray@Ventura.org). Please indicate the Agenda Item Number on which you are commenting in the Subject Line of your email. Your comment will be provided to the Cultural Heritage Board and placed into the item's record at the Cultural Heritage Board hearing.

**Option 2** – If you wish to make a comment in-person, you must be present at the meeting location and provide your comment prior to the close of the public comment period for the item you wish to speak on.

### **AGENDA**

1. **1:15 P.M. CALL TO ORDER THE MEETING OF THE VENTURA COUNTY CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD**
2. **ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
  - 3a. Vote to approve the May 12, 2025, Agenda
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - 4a. **Action:** Receive a presentation from Ms. Julie Tumamait-Stenslie, a local Chumash elder, on how Indigenous people have lived alongside the natural world in the region for thousands of years. The presentation is the next part in the Cultural Heritage Board guest speaker series, *A Shared History: Diverse Voices Across Ventura County*.

**BREAK**

**2:30 P.M. RECONVENE THE MEETING OF THE VENTURA COUNTY CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD**

- 4b. Action:** Present historic preservation awards recognizing the work of nine different individuals and organizations in Ventura County in honor of Historic Preservation Month 2025.

**5. CONTINUED ITEMS**

None

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

This time is set aside for public comment on items not otherwise on this agenda which are within the purview of the Cultural Heritage Board. Speakers wishing to address the CHB shall be allowed a maximum of three minutes for their comments. The CHB is prohibited from taking action on any item that is not part of the printed and published agenda.

**7. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

- 7a.** Vote to approve the April 14, 2025, Meeting Minutes

**8. REPORTS**

- 8a.** Board Member Reports
- 8b.** CHB Program Updates from Staff

**9. NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting will be a special meeting on May 19, 2025.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

## Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board

April 14, 2025, **Draft** Meeting Minutes

County of Ventura • Resource Management Agency

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**Note: The following is a summary of actions taken by the Cultural Heritage Board (CHB) at their public hearing and not a verbatim transcription.**

1. **1:15 P.M. CALL TO ORDER THE MEETING OF THE VENTURA COUNTY CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD**

2. **ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

**CHB Members Present:** Mike Winters (Chair), Tyson Cline, Herbert Gooch, Gary Blum, Miguel Fernandez, and Anthony Angelini

**CHB Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Dillan Murray, Senior Planner, Ventura County Planning Division

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

3a. Vote to approve the April 14, 2025, Agenda

Board Member Gooch made a motion to approve the April 14, 2025, Agenda. Board Member Fernandez seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

3a. Vote to approve the March 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Board Member Fernandez made a motion to approve the March 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes. Board Member Gooch seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Board Member Cline abstained).

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

5. **CONTINUED ITEMS**

None

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

6a. **Action:** Adopt proposed resolutions to approve historic preservation awards recognizing the work of nine different individuals and organizations. The awards are to be presented at a public hearing in May to coincide with National Historic Preservation Month.

**Presentation:** Dillan Murray, staff, presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the item background, discussion, and recommended actions. Staff recommended the CHB take the following actions on the item:

1. **CONDUCT** public hearing, **RECEIVE** oral and written testimony, and **CONSIDER** the Planning Division staff report and all exhibits and attachments hereto;
2. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-2 (Exhibit 1) approving an award for the Japanese American Citizens League for Excellence in Restoration of Oxnard's historic Japanese Cemetery;
3. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-3 (Exhibit 2) approving an award for David Hertz & Laura Doss-Hertz and Frances Rehwald for Excellence in Preservation of the Tony Duquette Historic District (9199 Cotharin Road and 11688 Cotharin Road, Malibu, CA 90265);
4. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-4 (Exhibit 3) approving an award for Dr. José Alamillo and his team of student researchers for Excellence in Grassroots Organizing and Community Development related to their research into historical Bracero farmworker labor camps in Ventura County;
5. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-5 (Exhibit 4) approving an award for the Skateboarding Hall of Fame in Simi Valley for Excellence in Organizations Supporting History or Historic Preservation;
6. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-6 (Exhibit 5) approving an award for the Fillmore Historical Museum for Excellence in Organizations Supporting History or Historic Preservation;
7. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-7 (Exhibit 6) approving an award for the Chumash Museum in Thousand Oaks for Excellence in Organizations Supporting History or Historic Preservation;
8. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-8 (Exhibit 7) approving an award for the Friends of Heritage Square in Oxnard for Excellence in Organizations Supporting History or Historic Preservation;
9. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-9 (Exhibit 8) approving an award for Beverlee McGrath for Excellence in Individuals Supporting Preservation; and

10. **ADOPT** CHB Resolution No. 2025-10 (Exhibit 9) approving an award for Adam's Forge in Simi Valley for Excellence in the Promotion and Implementation of Historical Programming.

**Discussion and Deliberation:**

Board Members thanked the ad hoc committee for their work on the awards for 2025.

Board Member Blum expressed concerns regarding the Heritage Square award, since there are several different organizations, property owners, and entities that each have a role at the property. Dillan Murray, staff, noted that the intent of the ad hoc committee was to recognize the Friends of Heritage Square who are responsible for coordinating events and tours that activate the space and bring continued interest in the historic buildings. Board Member Blum's concerns were addressed.

Board Member Fernandez made a motion to adopt staff's recommended actions. Board Member Cline seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

- 6b. Action:** View a California Preservation Foundation training webinar in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act requirements for Certified Local Governments. The training is titled *Historic Review, Ordinances, and Districts – Defining Historic Districts and Designing Sensitive Infill*.

**Presentation:** Staff screened the training webinar, which lasted approximately 45 minutes.

**Discussion and Deliberation:** None

Chair Winters made a motion to revisit Item 6a in order to allow for a member of the audience to provide comment. A consensus of the Board was in favor.

Megan Gately, Director of Education Programs at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Foundation and Institute, spoke on her volunteer involvement with the Japanese American Citizens League and thanked the CHB for its recognition of the group's efforts in granting a preservation award.

**7. REPORTS**

- 7a.** Board Member Reports

Board Member Cline reported on his involvement in the American Institute of Architects Ventura County chapter. The chapter will be hosting a professional mixer for creatives and designers on April 24<sup>th</sup> at GasWorks in Ventura.

Board Member Blum reported that a popular ethnic studies tour will be held in Downtown Oxnard, with future tours possible. More information can be found on the Downtown Oxnard social media pages.

Board Member Fernandez reported on his advocacy for the Achille Levy building in Oxnard. The building is now owned by the City of Oxnard Housing Department, which has hired an architectural historian to guide the rehabilitation of the building.

Board Member Angelini reported that the Reagan Museum has installed the Dead Sea Scrolls as a temporary and highly unique special exhibit. They are only on display for two weeks every two years.

**7b. CHB Program Updates from Staff**

Dillan Murray, staff, reported that the next scheduled hearing will be April 28<sup>th</sup>. Following this, at the May 12<sup>th</sup> hearing, the month of May will be acknowledged as Historic Preservation Month through the next part in the CHB guest speaker series. We will hear from local Chumash elder, Julie Tumamait-Stenslie, on the history of the Chumash in the region. Following the speaker, we will have the annual Preservation Awards ceremony. This meeting will be held in the Lower Plaza Assembly Room, which has a greater capacity for attendance.

Next, Mr. Murray reported that the CHB and the Planning Division recently won an award for the guest speaker series. The series was granted an American Planning Association (APA) 2025 Central Coast Section Planning Award. The APA is a professional organization representing the field of urban planning in the United States, and the Central Coast Section serves San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties. Specifically, the award is the *Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff Award*, which honors an individual, project, group, or organization that promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion and demonstrates a sustained commitment to advocacy. Award winners will be celebrated at the annual 2025 Central Coast Planning Awards Event on May 3, 2025, which all Board

Members are invited to. The event will be held from 5:00 pm-9:30 pm at the Palm Park Beach House in Santa Barbara. Please note that tickets to the event are necessary and an RSVP must be provided.

Next, Mr. Murray provided an update on the landmark records scanning project. Those records were digitized last year, and the physical copies will be donated to the Oxnard Library's Local History Room. Those records are finally ready to be handed over this month, and that will be completed in the weeks ahead. Eventually, the digitized records will be accessible to the public.

Next, Mr. Murray reported that staff is currently conducting the 5-year inspections of Mills Act contract properties. As a reminder, there are 17 properties under contract across the County of Ventura and City of Oxnard. As part of this, staff verifies work is being completed to schedule, and highlights any additional maintenance items that may be needed. Staff also works with property owners to provide technical assistance and project resources as may be needed.

Next, Mr. Murray reported that Supervisor Long's office has identified a nominee for the District 3 vacancy on the CHB, and they will be announced soon at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting.

Finally, Mr. Murray reported that the City of Fillmore is currently considering the creation of a Mills Act Program. One potential option would be contracting with the County of Ventura for program services, similar to the City of Oxnard.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled hearing will be held on April 28, 2025.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

At 2:43 p.m., the Cultural Heritage Board was adjourned.

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Mike Winters, Chair  
Cultural Heritage Board

ATTEST:

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Dillan Murray  
Cultural Heritage Program Planner

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Date