

# MEMO

## JACK HOUSE COMMITTEE

DATE: October 10, 2022  
TO: Parks and Recreation Commission  
CC: Meghan Burgher - Recreation Manager  
FROM: Chuck Crotser - JHC Chairperson  
RE: Jack House Committee reorganization

Due to ongoing difficulties in recruiting new members and a lack of clarity of our specific advisory expectations, our Committee feels that it is a good time to reconsider the role of the Jack House Committee. City staff and myself have spoken with the City Attorney's office, which has concluded that there are no legal barriers to proceeding in the manners proposed below.

Our Committee members feel that moving most of the responsibilities outlined in the original deed to the Parks and Recreation Committee makes good sense, but may take different forms while maintaining the intent of the original "gift". As such, we would like to offer several suggestions for your consideration:

**ALTERNATIVE #1** - Reduce the size of the JHC to 5 members: One member with historical architecture experience, One member with landscape design experience (preferably historical landscapes), One member from the History Center, and two members at large. The architecture and landscape positions need NOT be filled by Cal Poly faculty. This Committee could meet quarterly, or as needed to advise the PRC or City Council (similar to the Construction Board of Appeals).

The purview of the JHC would be primarily to support educational programs and the docent group. They would also continue to advocate for improving on-site facilities to support these programs such as a secure storage facility, rehabilitation of the Carriage Barn and Wash House for display or educational purposes; improving the kitchen/prep area to better accommodate events, etc. They would also be consulted regarding the access and use of existing resources, currently stored off-site. They would also be consulted on issues of accession and de-accession of historic resources.

**ALTERNATIVE #2** - Dissolve the JHC and move all responsibility to the PRC. However, of the 7 members on the PRC, designate one member with historical architecture experience, one member with landscape design experience (preferably historical landscapes) and one member from the History Center OR the docent group.

**ALTERNATIVE #3** - Dissolve the JHC and move all responsibility to the PRC. Issues surrounding historic architecture and gardens could be handled through consultation with the ARC and CHC, as needed. Perhaps one position on the PRC could be reserved for a JH docent member to help advocate for the concerns outlined in Alternative #1, above.

As a footnote, . . . when the original deed was accepted, the ARC was in its infancy and the CHC had not yet been created, thus the oversight needed at the time was really not in place.

We believe that **Alternative #3** would be the most efficient model and would provide the oversight that the family intended in 1975. Ultimately, we rely upon the wisdom of the City Council to make a timely and necessary adjustment to the Jack House Committee.

Thank you, . . .

