

From: Mendocino Historical Review Board

To: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

February XX, 2020

On May 8, 2018, our Board sent a communication to your Board regarding the eminent crisis and difficulty regarding filling seats and meeting mandated permit timelines on the Mendocino Historic Review Board (MHRB).

The difficulty of filling seats on the MHRB remains, and is approaching crisis level again. In March 2020, our Chair will be termed out. We currently have one vacancy on the five-member Board. This will bring the filled seats down to three members. This is a difficult position, which we believe you all, can understand. Legally, this becomes a significant liability when we review the requirements to process applications in a mandated time frame, or face automatic approval of applications that do not meet timely required obligations.

In this letter, we are requesting that your Board take some or all of the following actions to expand the pool of qualified MHRB applicants, and thus attempt to bring this Board to full membership:

- Experience – Similar to the above point, we are requesting the opportunity to utilize the experience of prior Board members, on an as needed basis. This would be implemented when the staff to the Board has direct knowledge that there will not be a quorum for the upcoming MHRB meeting. Staff, or Board members, could reach out to a “retired” MHRB Board member to be a current and acting MHRB Board member for a single meeting to meet the legally mandated time requirements and render decisions on current Board items.
- Expertise – Historic preservation, museum curator experience, studies in Northern California coastal life; these are all examples of areas of expertise relevant to expertise relevant to the MHRB. We are recommending the expansion of seats to allow for a Mendocino County resident to have “Expertise” as a qualification for appointment.
- Point of View Estates – The current zoning code does not include residents of this community to be eligible for seats on the MHRB. We recommend that because of the proximity to the district, that residents of the Point of View Estates are directly affected by decisions of the MHRB, and thus be included in the pool of applicants to the MHRB.

In closing, we are defined as a board of five members, dedicated to the historic preservation of Mendocino. Our current configuration of four members, will drop to three members in March 2020. We are again, seeking action from your Board of

Supervisors of Mendocino County, to broaden the pool of applicants to the Mendocino Historic Review Board, to ensure the mandated timely review of applications.

The existing MHRB members are signatories to this request. We will be present for the presentation of this communication at your Board meeting, and will be looking forward to the opportunity to discuss this matter with your Board.

Respectfully,

Chair Potash

Vice-Chair Lamb

Member Kappler

Member Roth