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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members.

The year has come to an end. The chapter is revamping itself. Zoom meetings have really brought the chapter together with regular board meetings and special events, such as Happy Hours including Wine Tasting and SoCal History & Disneyland. It has been a way to get members together and avoid the headache of traffic. The installation of next year's officers will be held via Zoom next week.

I am looking forward to having an in-person event. Perhaps one day it will be at Taix in Echo Park? Most recently from the Los Angeles Times Editorial Board (June 2, 2021) Au revoir, Taix. We shouldn't value buildings over people. Why preserve the '60s-era faux French structure if it means the restaurant inside can't survive? Owners of Taix French Restaurant in Echo Park have sold the building to a developer planning a mixed-use complex, but opponents want it to be preserved.

"Competing interests have been battling for almost two years over how to preserve the Taix French Restaurant in Echo Park, ever since its owners sold the Sunset Boulevard establishment to a developer who plans to demolish the faux French-Norman building and replace it with a housing and commercial complex.

That battle is now coming to a head before the Los Angeles City Council, and the city's course should be clear: It's time to bid adieu to the building so the restaurant can return - and more people can find housing.

Taix moved to its Echo Park location in the 1960s and has been a mainstay for weddings, funerals and family get-togethers, as well as a popular place to get a drink before and after games at nearby Dodger Stadium. But the sprawling, outdated eatery has been on the decline for years, with little interest in its banquet rooms and given rising food and labor costs. Those factors prompted the sale of the property in mid-2019.

To some, preserving Taix means keeping the recognizable building and restaurant intact. To others, including owner Michael Taix, the way to preserve the restaurant is to sacrifice the building and allow Taix to reopen in a smaller, more cost-efficient space within the new development.

"We're trying to survive," Taix told Times reporter Emily Alpert Reyes.

The City Council will decide this week whether Taix warrants landmark status and, if so, whether the building or the restaurant within it should be protected as a historic cultural monument. The latter would make it easier for the development to move forward while making it possible for Taix to stay in business. The project also would provide 170 units of housing, 24 of which would be set aside for very low-income residents.

It should be an easy choice. There's no point in preserving the cutesy faux French shell of Taix if the restaurant goes out of business. And there's no good reason to forgo desperately needed housing, especially affordable housing, just so Angelenos can drive by the old Taix building and savor their memories. Nostalgia is not a sufficient reason to

reject development.

This is going to become a familiar fight. Los Angeles is a difficult and expensive city in which to do business. The economic upheaval triggered by the pandemic has only made it harder for independently owned outlets to stay afloat. The city can and should develop programs to help "legacy" businesses like Taix — for example, by offering subsidies targeted at small, culturally significant companies unable to keep up with rising costs. There are also adaptive reuse programs that could help keep L.A.'s quirky architecture while transitioning to more efficient use of the buildings. There are ways for the city to serve the interests of both preservation and progress.

Los Angeles cannot prioritize the preservation of buildings over people, their livelihoods and their most basic of needs. For decades, Los Angeles has failed to build enough housing, and now we have a crushing affordability and homelessness crisis. This is a city that has to evolve."

Best wishes for a safe and prosperous summer!

Christine Lee



ASA Los Angeles Chapter Officer Installation Event Wednesday June 16th 4:00pm - 5:30pm

Register Now

IN THE NEWS

California Chapter Events

ASA NorCal chapter invites Los Angeles chapter members to join them for their program: Discovering Genius: The Works of Edward S. Curtis
Wednesday, June 23, at 11:00am

ASA LA Chapter Officers for 2021-2022

Congratulations to our new chapter officers, whose terms begin on July 1st. Thank you all who took the time to vote and a special thank you to our new board.

President: Gazelle Wichner, ASA
Vice President: Douglas Nason, ASA

2nd Vice President: Carol Krieks

Treasurer: Patricia A. Thomson Graham, ASA

Future Programs

We are still taking suggestions for future programs and webinars. If you would like to submit an idea, please contact any Board Member to discuss (contact information listed at the bottom of the newsletter)

Newsletter and Facebook

Excited about upcoming events or talks related to your discipline? Send us the details and we'll include it in next month's newsletter along with posting it on our Facebook page. Please email it to: info@appraisersla.com or cronkvukovic@appraisersla.com

Opening on Chapter Board

The Secretary position on the board for 2021-22 is still open. This is a great opportunity to get involved with your local chapter, while gaining experience serving as a board member. Since we are now meeting via Zoom, monthly meetings are easier than ever to attend. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Cindy Cronk Vukovic at: cronkvukovic@appraisersla.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Events

ASA LA Chapter 2021-2022 Officer Installation (Zoom), June 16, 4-5:30pm

Zoom Board Meeting Dates: Wednesday, June 16, 8am - 9am

CURRENT LOS ANGELES BOARD:

President: Christine T. Lee, ASA (BV), tinathomson72@hotmail.com Vice President: Gazelle R. Wichner, ASA (RP), gazellewichner@gmail.com 2nd Vice President: Carol J. Krieks, (GJ), joy.works@outlook.com Treasurer: Patricia A. Thomson Graham, ASA (RP), ktsinc@verizon.net Secretary: Open Position Executive Administrator: Cindy Cronk Vukovic (PP), cronkvukovic@appraisersla.com PP Chair: Hathy Poppers, ASA, artexpert@mac.com PP Co-Chair: Jena Lee, jenaroselee@gmail.com RP Chair: Doug Nason, ASA, nasond@wellsfargo.com GJ Chair: Charles Carmona, GG, ASA, cicarmona@gmail.com

MTS Chair: David Eichner, ASA, david@smsappraisal.net BV Chair: Mike Bradford, ASA, bradfordasa@gmail.com

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Vice President: Douglas Nason, ASA 2nd Vice President: Carol Krieks Treasurer: Patricia A. Thomson Graham, ASA

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