

COUNTY OF NEVADA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: November 8, 2016

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Julie Patterson Hunter**

SUBJECT: Resolution endorsing and certifying the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission's designation of the Shaar Zedek Hebrew Cemetery as Nevada County Historical Landmark NEV 16-03.

RECOMMENDATION: Request by Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission to approve the designation of the Shaar Zedek Hebrew Cemetery as Nevada County Historical Landmark 16-02.

FUNDING: N/A

BACKGROUND:

At its meeting of September 16, 2016, the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission unanimously approved the application submitted the Commission for the Preservation of Pioneer Jewish Cemeteries in the West's Chairman, Stephen D. Kinsey, for registration of the Shaar Zedek Hebrew Cemetery located between Blossom Lane, Second Street and Eureka Street in Grass Valley closets to 328 Second Street, as Nevada County Historical Landmark 16-02.

The current property owner, Commission for the Preservation of Pioneer Jewish Cemeteries and Landmarks in the West, submitted an application to designate the Nevada City Jewish Cemetery as a Nevada County Historical Landmark. The cemetery deed was recorded on October 14, 1856 and its first burial was in 1857. The cemetery was rededicated as a historical site on September 13, 1970. The cemetery represents less than one acre of what was once a five acre plot of land purchased by the Shaar Zedek Hebrew Benevolent Society. Jewish settlers had a significant presence at that time in both Nevada City and Grass Valley, where they participated as merchants, bankers, investors in the mines and were active in local government and city affairs. The Nevada City Jewish Cemetery is one of seven Jewish Gold Rush cemeteries from the 1850s. Further historical significance of the property is detailed in the attached documentation provided by the Applicant.

The Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission submitted a letter to the Board of Supervisors on September 23, 2016, requesting the Board of Supervisors approve the designation of the Nevada City Jewish Cemetery as a Nevada County Historical Landmark.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Julie Patterson Hunter

Submittal Date: October 24, 2016

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