

No decision made on Tahquitz Plaza demo

By Skip Descant
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A decision on the future of Tahquitz Plaza has again been delayed.

The Palm Springs Building Code Appeals Board was prevented from hearing an appeal for a demolition permit issued for the set of four mid-1970s modernist office buildings due to a lack of quorum.

The Building Code Appeals Board is generally made up of seven members. However, only four of those members attended Tuesday's board meeting. (Two seats are currently unfilled.) Ordinarily, that would be fine, because four members establishes a quorum of a majority of members.

Unless a member had to recuse himself.

"The board's chairman Chris Foster owns property within 500 feet of the subject site, as such, we no longer have a quorum for that particular item," Doug Holland, a private attorney who serves as the Palm Springs city attorney, told

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DOUG HOLLAND
Private attorney

the board at its Tuesday meeting.

Tuesday's appeal by local preservation groups opposing the demolition of the Hugh Kaptur-designed buildings may have been for naught anyway. In mid-June the Palm Springs Historic Site Preservation Board placed a 120-day stay on demolition of the property until a thorough analysis could be completed. The analysis would serve as a means to recommend the property to Class I His-

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Tahquitz

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toric Site status, a city designation that protects historic buildings. The designation also requires City Council approval.

The property is owned by Nexus Development, which has proposed a 91-unit mixed-use development for the site. That proposal has been rejected by the city's Planning Commission.

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