



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Historic Preservation Commission Motion No. 0152

HEARING DATE: APRIL 4, 2012

Date: April 5, 2012
Case No.: 2012.0118L
Project Address: 301 Geary St, aka 247 Powell, Gold Dust Lounge
Landmark Initiation Application
Zoning: C-3-R – (Downtown – Retail)
80-130-F Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 0315/001
Project Sponsor: Christopher VerPlanck, *et al*
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ADOPTING FINDINGS DISAPPROVING THE INITIATION OF LANDMARK DESIGNATION FOR 301 GEARY ST, AKA 247 POWELL, (GOLD DUST LOUNGE) LOT 001 IN ASSESSOR'S BLOCK 0315.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, On February 1, 2012, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) received a report by Christopher VerPlanck and a request by several members of the public to consider initiation of the Gold Dust Lounge at located at 301 Geary Street, aka 247 Powell Street as an Article 10 Landmark.

WHEREAS, At its hearing on April 4, 2012, the Commission, concluded its review of the application to initiate the Gold Dust Lounge at located at 301 Geary Street, aka 247 Powell Street as an Article 10 Landmark. In reviewing the nomination, the Commission has had available for its review and consideration reports, photographs, and other materials pertaining to the nomination contained in the Department's case file, and has reviewed and heard testimony and received materials from interested parties during the public hearing on the proposal..

MOVED, that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby disapproves the initiation of landmark designation of the Gold Dust Lounge at located at 301 Geary Street, aka 247 Powell Street as an Article 10 Landmark.

FINDINGS

Having reviewed all the materials identified and the recitals above, and having heard oral testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

1. The above recitals are accurate and also constitute findings of the Commission.

2. The Commission noted that the Gold Dust Lounge did not meet the level of significance necessary to qualify as an Article 10 Landmark according to the National Register criteria the HPC is compelled to use.
 - a. Under Criterion A, while the bar was part of "a broad pattern" of San Francisco's nightlife culture, the Gold Dust in and of itself did not make a "significant" contribution to that history.
 - b. With regard to Criterion C, it was thought that the Gold Dust Lounge had changed too much over time to be characteristic of any particular period, and that no particular period in the bar's evolution was of outstanding artistic merit
3. While the Commission was not supportive of the initiation, the HPC is interested in exploring methods for recognizing sites that may not meet standard landmark designation criteria, but are important in our social and cultural history.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was Adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission on April 4, 2012.


Linda Avery
Recording Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Chase, Damkroger, Hasz, Johns, and Wolfram

NAYS: Commissioners Martinez and Matsuda

ABSENT: None

ADOPTED: April 4, 2012