



COUNCIL MINUTES

August 29, 2016

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on August 29, 2016 at 5:16 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles
Alex Finter
Christopher Glover
Dennis Kavanaugh
David Luna
Dave Richins
Kevin Thompson

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Jim Smith
Dee Ann Mickelsen

1. Review items on the agenda for the August 29, 2016 Regular Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflict of interest: None.

Items removed from the consent agenda: None.

2. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on the Proposed Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program.

Planning Director John Wesley displayed a PowerPoint presentation on the Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program. **(See Attachment 1)**

Mr. Wesley explained that the Historic Preservation Program assists neighborhoods in maintaining and preserving structures for historic integrity. (See Page 2 of Attachment 1) He stated that this program is achieved through a zoning process and has strict zoning requirements.

Mr. Wesley pointed out that the Historic Preservation Program doesn't fit some neighborhoods as a tool to maintain the historic integrity in the long-term and stated that some neighborhoods do not fit the traditional requirements, such as Washington Park/Escobedo and Lehi.

He continued by stating that a new tool would need to be developed to help preserve and maintain these types of neighborhoods. He explained that the new program would be called the "Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program", would be adopted by the Council through a resolution, and

listed the key features. (See Page 4 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Wesley highlighted the criteria for designation (See Page 5 of Attachment 1) as follows:

- At least 50 years old.
- Character of the neighborhood remains the same as in the historic period.
- Resident and/or business owners demonstrate they worked together to create a unique and identifiable neighborhood.
- There are unique and identifiable physical characteristics that create the fabric of the neighborhood.
- Residents document the people, events, and/or cultural heritage that influenced the neighborhood's historic integrity.

He added that the benefits (See Pages 6 and 7 of Attachment 1) are as follows:

- Bringing neighbors together to improve sense of place.
- History of the neighborhood would be listed on the website.
- Consideration during any development decisions.
- Street signage unique to the Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program.

He explained the implementation process for neighborhoods to submit an application for review by City staff; that neighborhoods would hold at least one public meeting; submit the application to the Historic Preservation Board; and that the City Council would complete the final review. (See Page 8 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Councilmember Richins, City Attorney Jim Smith explained that there would be no Proposition 207 (Private Property Rights) issues since the signs would be placed in the right-of-way which is the City's property. He clarified that there would be no overlay or restrictions on the property.

In response to a question from Councilmember Thompson, Mr. Wesley indicated that in order to avoid the restrictions of a Historic Preservation Neighborhood, the Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program is designed to be more flexible.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh stated that he approves of the concept and added that the program will really showcase the uniqueness and enhance the value of the neighborhoods.

In response to a question from Councilmember Luna, Mr. Wesley explained that key stakeholders have been identified and will begin working with the Neighborhood Outreach office and neighborhood representatives to setup the application process.

Mayor Giles clarified that the City Council is directing staff to move forward with the Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program.

Mayor Giles thanked Mr. Wesley for the presentation.

3. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

- 3-a. Human Relations Advisory Board meeting held on May 25, 2016.
- 3-b. Public Safety Committee meeting held on June 9, 2016.

It was moved by Councilmember Glover, seconded by Councilmember Luna, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Carried unanimously.

4. Hear reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

There were no reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

5. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, September 1, 2016, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session Cancelled

Thursday, September 8, 2016, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Sunday, September 4, 2016 – Free Admission at the Arizona Museum of Natural History

Monday, September 5, 2016, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Free Family Swim at the Skyline Aquatic Center with Councilmember Thompson

Saturday, September 10, 2016, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – Free Pancake Breakfast at Fire Station 210 with Vice Mayor Kavanaugh

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 29th day of August, 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

Heritage Neighborhoods

City Council Study Session
August 29, 2016

Background

- Goal to maintain neighborhoods
- City has an active historic preservation program
 - 7 National Districts
 - Over 20 National and/or local landmarks
- Based primarily on having structures that have maintained historic integrity
- Local designation places strict zoning requirements

- Some neighborhoods have historic significance but don't fit traditional requirements
 - Washington Park/Escobedo
 - Lehi
- Need a new tool to help preserve and maintain these types of neighborhoods

Proposal

- Create a new program –
“Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program”
- Key features:
 - Based more on recognizing socially and culturally important neighborhoods
 - Adopted by resolution not ordinance
 - Would encourage preservation of scale and feel of the neighborhood
 - Require neighborhood residents to actively document the history of their neighborhood

Criteria for Designation

- At least 50 years old.
- Character of the neighborhood remains the same as in the historic period.
- Residents and/or business owners demonstrate they worked together to create a unique and identifiable neighborhood
- There are unique and identifiable physical characteristics that create the fabric of the neighborhood
- Residents document the people, events, and/or cultural heritage that influenced the neighborhood's historic integrity

Benefits

- Brings neighbors together, improve sense of place
- Listed on website with history
- Consideration during any development decisions

Benefits

- **Street signage**



Existing Historic District neighborhood signs

Modify to “Heritage Neighborhood”, reverse colors



Existing Historic District street signs

Modify to “Heritage Neighborhood”, reverse colors

Implementation Process

- Neighborhood submits application
- Staff works with neighborhood to refine
- Neighborhood holds at least one neighborhood meeting
- Review and recommendation by Historic Preservation Board
- Review and approval by City Council

Adoption

- **Presented to Community and Cultural Development Committee**
- **Received input from neighborhood groups**
- **Recommendation for approval from Historic Preservation Board**