

CITY OF MESA

MINUTES OF THE *HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE*

DATE: January 13, 2005 **TIME:** 6:00 p.m.

| MEMBERS PRESENT | STAFF PRESENT | OTHERS PRESENT |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| Chair David Dean Vince Anderson Lane Burdick Victor Linoff Pat Mendivil Ron Peters | Shelly Allen Sandra Apsey Kathy Guthmiller Jerry Howard Greg Marek | Jared Smith Lisa Anderson |
| MEMBERS ABSENT | | |
| None | | |

1. Call to Order.

The January 13, 2005 Regular Meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Consider Minutes of December 9, 2004 Regular Meeting.

It was moved by Ron Peters, seconded by Vic Linoff, to **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF the December 9, 2004 Minutes, as amended.**

**Vote: 6 in favor
0 opposed**

3. Discuss Irving School Reuse/MCC – Barbara Thelander

Ms. Barbara Thelander of Mesa Community College (MCC) gave a brief overview of MCC's intended use of the Irving School and the various programs offered by the Center for Community Education. Ms. Thelander

also discussed the new Mesa Life Option Centers, noting that in May they were in the final preparation of a grant request to the Virginia G. Piper charitable trust, partnering with the City of Mesa (Library and Community Services) and Mesa Senior Services. Ms. Thelander stated that they were awarded half a million dollars over a 3-year period. Ms. Thelander explained to the Committee that the Mesa Life Option Centers are designed for “third-agers” (defined by MCC as people ages 45 – 70) with the intent of providing programs and services for life-planning and coaching, gateways to opportunities for civic engagement and volunteerism and lifelong learning for intellectual growth and re-careering, identified spaces within partner facilities for programs, resource navigation and social interaction and links to current and emerging services within Mesa community and beyond.

Ms. Thelander acknowledged that negotiations are still in progress with the City of Mesa regarding Irving School, so the facility isn't definite, but MCC will have a Mesa Life Option Center in Downtown Mesa.

Ms. Thelander discussed several other programs offered by MCC and asked HPC members if they had any questions.

Mr. Vic Linoff noted that he's concerned that historic elements of the Irving School may be altered or removed while it is vacant or transitioning to its new use.

Ms. Shelly Allen assured the Committee that staff would be documenting items in the Irving School, as to what would be staying or going, and informing the appropriate people. Ms. Allen noted that a walk-through is scheduled for next Friday.

Mr. Linoff commented that Heritage Funds and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) funds are available for work on historic properties, and MCC would be eligible to apply for those funds.

Chair Dean noted that the HPC has been interested in promoting the education and outreach of historic preservation in Mesa, and suggested that related classes could be offered at MCC's Mesa Life Option Centers.

Ms. Thelander agreed that would be a popular area of interest, and especially appropriate if held in the Irving School.

Chair Dean stated that the HPC would like to sign up to be the first course offered from the Irving School.

Committee members thanked Ms. Thelander for her presentation.

4. **Discuss Riverview archaeological testing and recovery – Jerry Howard**

Mr. Jerry Howard of the Southwest Museum updated HPC members on the Riverview archaeological project. Mr. Howard noted that fieldwork began in November for the 250-acre site, and informed Committee members of several significant finds. Mr. Howard stated that important data can be gathered from this project regarding the history of the Hohokam canal system and how it grew.

5. **Discuss Post World War II neighborhood study.**

Chair Dean asked for feedback from Committee members that were able to use the draft postwar neighborhood reconnaissance form in evaluating the neighborhoods discussed at last month's meeting.

Mr. Marek noted that he would take HPC member comments and incorporate them into a revised form. Mr. Marek stated that he would then enter the relevant property information on the forms for the remaining 23 developments, then Committee members and staff could decide how they want to get together in order to evaluate the developments. Once the reconnaissance survey is done utilizing the form, a series of meetings would then need to be held to come up with evaluation criteria to use and narrow down the number of developments to 6 – 8 developments to conduct a more intensive study.

Comments/suggestions from HPC members regarding the postwar neighborhood reconnaissance form included:

- Include GIS number for identification
- Context of neighborhoods -- make sure area on form is available to identify streets and landscaping (e.g.: under "Street Pattern" checkmark boxes for "original" or "other" could be provided.)
- Some difficulty making determinations between Early/Transitional, Simple and California Ranch Style architectural features
- Some confusion with Cottage Style category (maybe move Cape Cod to Character Ranch Style category and eliminate Cottage Style category)
- Possibly combine Los Ranchos and Spanish Colonial styles
- Could take off Progressive Style category and combine Contemporary and International styles

- Change “Cowboy” to “Western” under Character Ranch category
- Eliminate styles under Tri-Level Category
- Aerial maps were very helpful
- A coding system might be helpful to determine eligible/not eligible, integrity issues/no integrity issues (could be placed under “Patio” section)
- Narrow down architectural styles for initial surveys
- Including an 8 ½” x 11” size aerial photo would be helpful to make notes on the properties
- Include place to notate “original” or “modified”
- Form is well-structured and has potential to develop into a dual form (able to use for individual properties also)

Committee members agreed that it would be easier to evaluate neighborhoods when they are in groups, to be able to collaborate with one another.

Mr. Marek stated that once he revises the form he will e-mail or distribute it to HPC members for comment, then the next step would be to pick a couple of developments to evaluate in groups.

6. Discuss and Consider Historic Preservation Graphic Element.

Mr. Linoff presented draft samples of the Historic Preservation Graphic Element in stitched-out form for Committee members to review.

It was moved by Vince Anderson, seconded by Ron Peters, to proceed with the embroidery design of the Historic Preservation graphic element, with the wording to read, “Mesa Historic Preservation.”

**Vote: 6 in favor
0 opposed**

7. Historic Preservation Office Project Status Report: January, 2005 – Shelly Allen

Ms. Allen informed Committee members that the RFP for the Irving School has gone out; the Fraser Fields and Clark Westside Historic Districts’ RFPs were slightly delayed but should be mailed out in the near future.

Ms. Allen noted that negotiations are continuing with MCC regarding the Irving School.

Ms. Allen stated that work on the Mitten house is progressing and she will keep HPC members updated.

Mr. Linoff commented that once the Mitten house project is completed, he wants to see it publicized.

Ms. Allen told HPC members that the Historic Sites Review Committee will review the Landmark Restaurant (Elm Award) in February.

Ms. Allen briefed the Committee on the Historic Preservation Awards Program, referring to the nomination packet that was distributed. Ms. Allen noted that award nominations need to be turned in by March 4th, but the announcements and publicity will be extended through May (Historic Preservation Month).

Chair Dean asked about the Section 106 programmatic agreement.

Ms. Allen responded that it is still at the City Attorney's office being reviewed.

Chair Dean inquired about when the vacancy on the Historic Preservation Committee would be filled.

Ms. Allen answered that the Mayor's Office is working on filling the vacancy.

8. Report: Mesa Public Library, Mesa Room – Sandra Apsey.

Ms. Apsey addressed the Historic Preservation Committee, stating that the Mesa Room has been concentrating on preserving their collections.

Ms. Apsey noted that they have been going through the City directories for the past couple of months, some of them dating back to 1892. Ms. Apsey added that the directories and telephone books are the most frequently used collections from the Mesa Room, so a high priority has been placed on preserving those materials.

Ms. Apsey informed Committee members that she received a phone call from Ms. Virginia Aguero (of the West 2nd Street Historic District) saying how pleased she was that the trees had been replaced as the City had arranged.

9. Report: Mesa Southwest Museum – Jerry Howard.

Mr. Jerry Howard informed Committee members that the Arab American Exhibit and lecture series is going well at the Southwest Museum. Mr. Howard added that another current exhibit at the Museum is “Hatching the Past: Dinosaur Eggs, Nests and Young”

Mr. Howard updated HPC members on the exhibit that was planned for Banner Mesa Hospital, which is now being reconsidered since it was announced the hospital will be closing. Mr. Howard noted that the hospital is still encouraging the Museum to put in the exhibit, but that it would take about a year to get the exhibit built and in place, and it would be in place for two years.

Mr. Howard briefed Committee members on the Verdugo Stagecoach stop project, stating that work has now been focusing on an adobe schoolhouse, and a grant is being prepared to obtain funds to replace the roof and stabilize the building.

Mr. Howard told the HPC that another field school would be starting through Mesa Community College; they will be working on HUD surveys and helping the Historic Preservation Office review incoming archaeological reports.

10. Report: Mesa Historical Museum – Jared Smith.

Mr. Jared Smith introduced Ms. Lisa Anderson, the new director of the Mesa Historical Museum.

Mr. Smith updated Committee members on the Historic Home Tour to be held January 15th, inviting them to attend, and distributed copies of the program. Mr. Smith commented on the great publicity this year’s Historic Home Tour has received.

Committee members commented on how nice the program booklet turned out.

HPC members commented it was a good idea to have guest registers at one or more of the houses to obtain demographic information.

Mr. Smith noted that paperwork has been sent off for the Mesa Historical Museum’s State Heritage Fund grant, and thanked Mr. Ron Peters for his assistance.

Mr. Smith informed HPC members that the next speaker at the Museum would be Charles Luster on January 20th.

Mr. Smith stated that the Mesa Historical Museum is in the process of applying for the Community Aid grant for this year.

11. Committee Member Comments and Questions and Future Agenda Items.

Mr. Vic Linoff commented he appreciated seeing staff at the grant workshop and gave an overview on the new Heritage Fund grants manual and requirements.

Mr. Ron Peters stated that the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) hired a writer to complete the Buckhorn Baths National Register nomination.

Chair Dean reminded Committee members that the Mesa Arts Center (at the Irving School) is holding a closing reception on Sunday, December 19th as it prepares to be relocated to the new Mesa Arts Center campus at Center and Main.

HPC members briefly discussed the potential reuse of the Irving School.

12. Items from Citizens Present (no action to be taken).

No items from citizens present.

13. Adjournment

8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Allen, Historic Preservation Officer
Minutes prepared by Kathy Guthmiller