



Approved Minutes  
**Historic Preservation Board**  
 (Approved on April 25, 2015)  
**Date:** March 3, 2015  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** 57 E. First Street, Lower Level Council Chambers

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests
Jim Taylor, Chair Wendy Mack-Allred, Vice Chair Laura Schaffer-Metcalf, Ed.D. Janice Gennevois Dane Astle Louise Swann	Annalisa Alvrus, Ph.D.	John Wesley	Donna Bengel Vic Linhoff

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. Approval of the January 6, 2015 minutes

Mr. Wesley read from an e-mail received from Board member Alvrus making a correction to the wording of the first item under #10 on the agenda. This item should say; "Board member Alvrus invited any of the Board members to come to Mesa Grande on Friday afternoons when the Mesa Community College archaeology class is working there."

Board Action:

First Motion made by Board member Louise Swann to approve the minutes as amended and seconded by Board member Schaffer-Metcalf.  
 Motion carried 6-0 (Alvrus absent).

3. Review and discuss status of the Westside Clark National Historic District, including status of efforts to create a local historic district – Sandra Andrews

Mr. Wesley informed the Board that Ms. Andrews had some conflicts arise and could not attend the meeting. He gave a brief overview of this national register district and provided the Board with a copy of the district nomination so they could review it.

Mr. Wesley stated a small group of the residents have been working off and on over the last couple of years to also create a local historic designation for this property.

4. Review and discuss development of a report to the City Council supporting the creation of a downtown historic district to include:

Chair Taylor reminded the Board that at last month's meeting Vice-Mayor Kavanaugh had meet with the Board and encouraged us to take an active role in advising the Council on matters related to historic preservation in general and specifically with regards to the downtown area. In response the Board agreed to work on this over the next few months to understand the issues and prepare a report and recommendation to the Council. These next two items are in response to that discussion.

- a. Draft report outline

Mr. Wesley stated that this first item was something he had put together to provide the Board with some understanding of his thinking about what would go into a report to the Council and, therefore, some of the things the Board would discuss in the coming months. He pointed out that with the work being done by the Downtown Vision Committee and the Mesa Preservation Foundation also looking

into actions for the downtown area, it will be important to coordinate with these groups and make sure we are in alignment.

b. Presentation on the Central Main Plan – John Wesley

Mr. Wesley reviewed a power point presentation overview of the Plan focusing on the downtown area, and more particularly the area designated as “Historic Downtown.” He pointed out the Plan was developed with citizen input, recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Board, and approved by the City Council in 2012. There are many goals, policies, projects, and programs in the Plan that support historic preservation. This forms a strong base for the work the Board is proposing with regards to a historic district designation in the downtown area.

Chair Taylor asked about the policy under Diverse Community with regards to having a variety of housing and wondered if this threatened the desire to maintain historic neighborhoods. Mr. Wesley responded that it did not; there are other areas when new housing can be provided. The recent concern has been with the idea that we may be getting too many tax credit projects in the area.

Chair Taylor asked about the role of the numerous projects in the Plan, if they were just a wish list or if they would all be accomplished. Mr. Wesley explained that the committee that worked on this considered each of these items very carefully before putting them in the Plan. They are all things the group thought were important for the Plan and the future of the area. With that said, it is also recognized that we cannot really do all of the things listed so they are somewhat of a wish list. There is a list in the Executive Summary that gives the top priority things that should be worked on.

Chair Taylor pointed out that this Plan and the Council Strategic Initiatives both support the idea of a downtown historic district and provide a strong basis for the report the Board is going to put together.

5. Discuss review and selection process for historic writing contest entries

The submissions were distributed to the Board. 19 entries were received. Following discussion, Board members Schaffer-Metcalf and Gennevois agreed to take a first look at the submissions and narrow it down to a top five. The other Board members will be informed of which are the top 5. Everyone can then review those top entries. At the April retreat the Board will select the top 3 to receive the awards.

6. Review, discuss and take action on a new HPB brochure and new banner

Board member Schaffer-Metcalf stated she had re-worked the brochure with new language provided by Mr. Wesley. The Board was pleased with the new brochure, but wanted a chance to review it more thoroughly before fully approving it. It was agreed that if anyone had any corrections they noted they should give them to Board member Schaffer-Metcalf. She would make these modifications and get them to Mr. Wesley who would then have some printed up for use at next week’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday event. The brochure would be on a future agenda for final review.

Board member Astle reviewed the final draft banner with the Board member and explained each of the images. The Board was very pleased with the final banner. Mr. Astle said he could get it printed up and ready for next week’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday event.

First Motion made by Board member Schaffer-Metcalf to approve the banner as presented and seconded by Board member Gennevois.

Motion carried 6-0 (Alvrus absent).

7. Discuss and plan for upcoming Board retreat scheduled for April 25, 2015

The Board members reviewed the draft agenda. They discussed starting the tour by going to Mesa Grande, then to the Alston House, and then to the Glenwood Wilbur Historic District. Lunch will be at Board member Gennevois’s home. The Board will then return to the Municipal Building for the business portion of the meeting. Details will be worked out between Mr. Wesley and Chair Taylor over the next month.

8. Update on the historic highway signage for former US Highways 60, 70, 80, and 89 on Main Street

Donna Benge showed the Board the sign that had been completed. The other signs are now done. The Transportation Department has selected the locations and will do the installation. Mr. Wesley stated he has worked with the City's Public Information Office to get a story on the signs when they go up.

9. Discuss status of efforts to establish historic district(s) or landmark(s) for:

- a. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Pasadena. Vice-chair Mack-Allred provided an update. Progress is being made on completing the spreadsheet that documents each property.
- b. Buckhorn Baths. There was no new information on the status of the City purchase of this property.
- c. Citrus Growers Building. This building has recently been purchased. Mr. Wesley informed the Board that he has had a recent conversation with the new owner and they plan to maintain and restore the historic portion of this facility.

10. Updates on Museums, Exhibits, Committees and Events related to Historic Preservation

Chair Taylor mentioned the upcoming State Historic Preservation Conference. The Councilmembers have been invited to attend.

Chair Taylor asked the Board about the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday event downtown. Chair Taylor and Board members Swann and Mack-Allred agreed they would attend this month's event.

Victor Linhoff updated the Board on several items he has been working on including meetings with City staff and the Downtown Vision Committee regarding the colonnade; developing a cost estimate for removal of the colonnade (approximately \$450,000 to \$500,000) and construct new individual awnings for the buildings (approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000); a meeting with the Mayor; and, further research into the historic look of the buildings downtown. He informed the Board of an upcoming presentation he will be making to the Eastmark leadership class regarding Mesa history and that there will be a "milestone" event for light rail at Main and Mesa Drive at 1:00 on Monday, March 23.

11. Board Member comments, questions, and future agenda items

Board member Genevois informed the Board that Ron Peters is looking at possible designs to create a boulevard in the middle of Hibbert north of 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

12. Adjournment

Chair Taylor adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.

First Motion made by Board member Schaffer-Metcalf and seconded by Board member Astle. Motion carried 6-0 (Alvrus absent).

Supporting data is available for public review in the Planning Division,  
Municipal Building, 55 N. Center St., Mesa, Arizona 85201

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