

# City of Mesa

## MINUTES OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

**Date:** August 22, 2006

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Ron Peters Barbara Jarrett Lane Burdick Jared Smith Nathan Ricks Lillian Wilkinson (late)	Stephanie Brüning	Barbara Price
MEMBERS ABSENT	SUPPORT PRESENT	
Steve McCance		

**1. Call to Order**

The August 22, 2006 Special Meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) was called to order.

The Committee welcomed two new Committee members: Mrs. Barbara Jarrett and Mr. Jared Smith.

**2. Consider Minutes of June 8, 2006, and July 13, 2006, Regular Meetings**

No changes or amendments needed to be made.

**Motion:** (Mr. Burdick) Approve the meeting minutes from the June 8, 2006, and the July 13, 2006 Regular HPC Meetings.

**Seconded:** Mr. Smith

**Vote:** Unanimous (5 – 0)

Meeting minutes approved.

**3. Discuss and Consider: Demolition Clearance for 51 S. Mesa Drive (Rescheduled from July Meeting, per applicant's request)**

Applicant was not present; Committee will review this item later in the meeting.

The applicants were present at the Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> HPC Meeting. That meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum. The last contact Ms. Brüning had from the applicants was that they would be appearing at tonight's meeting.

The Committee discussed that the only item the HPC is lacking is to review the applicant's plan for preservation and documentation of the property. The hold ends next week. The HPC Officer cannot disapprove their request for a historic clearance for demolition because the applicants have met with the HPC and fulfilled the requirements of the code. Mr. Peters requested that Ms. Brüning follow-up with the applicants. One of the requirements was to have the carriage house recorded. Ms. Brüning did see photos at the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, but nothing has been submitted. The Committee requested that they have on record encouraged the applicants to engage in the properties future development. The Secretary of Interior's Guidelines will still need to be followed by the applicants for future development of the property since it still lies within the boundaries of the Temple historic district. The Committee's request to review future plans for the properties at 51, 55, and 59 South Mesa Drive will be added to the October Meeting Agenda.

**No action required on this item.**

**4. Discuss and Update: Demolition Clearance for 2222 E. Lehi Road (Crismon Farm Homestead)**

The applicants have contacted Ms. Brüning. They are going to go ahead and advertise the sale of the buildings. The condition of the buildings has been deteriorating and there has been more theft of the historic features on the property. Ms. Brüning provided the applicants with venues to advertise the sale/reuse of the property, including the City of Chandler. The City of Chandler might be interested in the buildings and/or materials of the property for their Tumbleweed Park. Ms. Brüning will contact the City of Chandler to let them know that some of the items on the farmstead could be removed prior to the demolition date, but the structures must remain until the historic demolition clearance is completed per the code. There is one interested party in the house if they are able to relocate the house to their property. The applicants have applied for a demolition permit and the six-month hold expires in October.

**No action required on this item.**

**5. Discuss and Consider: Historic Clearance for 435 North Grand (Work conducted without Clearance) (Rescheduled from July Meeting, per applicant's request)**

Ms. Barbara Price is the owner and applicant for the historic clearance, and she is present at the meeting. The house is listed within the historic district but it is considered a non-contributing structure.

**Staff Recommendation:** The HPC determines that because the property does not contribute to the historic significance of the district AND because the changes do not adversely affect the historic district NOR the neighboring *Contributing* properties; the HPC approves the Historic Clearance application.

Mrs. Price stated her name and address for the records: Barbara Price, 435 N. Grand Street, Mesa, AZ. The house was owned by her parents, and was moved to a new location where it currently resides. The garage had to be built behind the house due to the location of the house and a canal (ditch). After her mother passed away, Mrs. Price decided to turn the garage into a little apartment. Mrs. Price was not aware that a permit was needed. She found someone to do the work and they began the work. Mrs. Price showed the Committee pictures of the converted garage, which is where her daughter is currently living. She is also working with Building Safety and Town Center on her plans.

**Motion:** (Mr. Ricks) A motion was made that the Committee follows staff recommendations and approve the Historic Clearance application.

**Seconded:** Mrs. Jarrett

**Vote:** Unanimous (5 – 0)

**6. Discuss and Consider: Historic Clearance Demolition Application Requirements**

As requested by the Committee, Ms. Brüning has created a document listing code regulations for historic clearances for people asking for demolition permits within the historic district.

The Committee discussed that there is no requirement that the applicant must provide archival photographs in the applications.

The Committee expressed the need to see the information from applicants be standardized from all applicants. Photographs of the structure should not be required. Mr. Peters would also like to see staff's recommendation on the form itself.

**Motion:** (Mr. Ricks) It was moved to accept the Historic Clearance Review Requirements – Demolition Permit written by the Historic Preservation Officer. Included in this motion is to have a standardized application form in the application packet as discussed.

**Seconded:** Mr. Smith

**Vote:** Unanimous (6 – 0) [Ms. Wilkinson has arrived to the Committee meeting]

**7. Update: Mesa Southwest Museum and Mesa Historical Museum**

Mesa Southwest Museum –

- Ms. Brüning reported for the Mesa Southwest Museum; Dr. Howard was unable to attend the Committee meeting.
- An archaeological exhibit is being installed at Banner Mesa Hospital.
- The museum requested \$600,000.00 in Gaming Funds from the Salt River Community. These funds will be primarily used for architectural planning and the development of a trail system.
- A film crew will be using Mesa Grande as the backdrop for the opening of the film. They are looking for extras to be in the background on an archaeological dig.
- The museum will be releasing some new publications including, "Southwest Quest" and an archaeological series.
- The museum now has two newly renovated offices in the basement. This will provide them with a much nicer and more efficient work environment.

Mesa Historical Museum –

- Mr. Smith reported out for the Mesa Historical Museum
- A part-time educator has been hired.
- Ongoing renovation work is almost complete, and they are preparing for the transfer of an exhibit from the Mesa Southwest Museum in November.
- Additionally, cleaning up from the latest storm. The down spouts received via the Heritage Grant have worked this summer, and the only water that collected in the basement was from the storm last night.

- The buildings are slowly but surely getting back into a situation where their integrity is holding and they are protecting the collections inside.
- Working on various upcoming donations projects and continuing efforts to keep the museum funded.

**8. Discuss and Consider: Future Meeting Schedule**

- Being that the Committee is made up of several new members, Mr. Peters asked the Committee if there is a better night for the Committee to meet instead of Thursday nights.
- After discussion, it was agreed that the second Thursday is still the best for the Committee members to meet.

**Discussion:** HPC meetings are to be held every other month, starting with October. The Committee members are still to keep the second Thursday of the non-meeting months open. If items arise, Ms. Brüning will notify all the Committee members and a meeting will be held during the non-meeting months if a quorum can be met.

**Motion:** (Mr. Smith) Move to meet every other month, with the months in between to be tentative by committee members just in case a meeting is needed. The next scheduled meeting will be in October 2006.

**Seconded:** Mr. Burdick

**Vote:** Unanimous (6 – 0)

**9. Historic Preservation Office Project Status Report: August 2006**

Ms. Brüning gave each Committee members the status report of the current HP projects.

The Committee still prefers the status reports in this format and would like to continue to receive them.

The Committee stated that they want the Escobedo Project placed back on the status report.

**10. Committee Member Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items**

The Committee asked for clarification on what happens if a person wants to demolish their property but never meets with the Committee and after the six-month period has passed, that person states that since the six months has passed, they are going to do whatever they prefer with their property?

According to Ms. Brüning, this would not meet with City's code for demolition requirements for a property in a historic district or a historic landmark. Also, a demolition clearance is not automatically given after 180 days has passed. According to the code, the applicant must request the historic clearance be forwarded to Building Safety after the six-month period has passed; only Building Safety can issue permits.

**11. Items from Citizens Present**

None.

**12. Historic Preservation Officer Report**

This item was added to the agenda for discussion items of anything that might come up.

There are two items that Ms. Brüning would like to inform the Committee about:

- A group meeting was held on the Alston House. Numerous representatives attended, from both staff and the non-profit group, MAHC, that will also be occupying the property. Ms. Brüning will have progress reports for the Committee.
  
- The next issue is on the locomotive. A few months ago, we received information that the 1912 steam locomotive that is in Pioneer Park was out for bid to sell by Parks and Recreation. Mr. Peters, Ms. Brüning, and Mrs. Kent (Acting Neighborhood Services Department Manager) have asked Parks & Recreation if they can assist them in finding some options for the locomotive. They met with Parks & Recreation last week. The Park & Recreation Board continued to hold on the bid process and gave an opportunity of six months for a committee of their people and a few others to come up with some options for the preservation of keeping the locomotive within Mesa. Partnering with Parks & Recreation, as well as with some non-profit agencies (i.e., Mesa Southwest Museum and the Mesa Historical Museum), the newly formed committee is going to move forward in trying to find some options and alternatives to the loss of this local landmark. The locomotive has been in Pioneer Park for 48 years; coming up on our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the park and coming up on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its construction. Ms. Brüning extended an invitation to all the HPC members to join the new committee if they would like to. Ms. Brüning will keep the HPC updated on the progress. An update proposal is due to the Parks & Recreation Board in six months (February 2007) on the findings of the committee and suggestions about maintaining, restoring, moving, keeping, raising money for, etc. for the locomotive. It was brought up that there probably are many citizens that have fond memories of playing on the train, and they may not even be aware of the current situation.
  
- The office has been receiving inquiries about placing manufactured homes in historic districts. As long as the home meets City Building Codes and the City's design guidelines, a manufactured home can be placed in a historic district. However, this has not been done before in Mesa.

**13. Update: The location of the September meeting of the HPC will return to the Mesa City Council Chambers, Lower Level, 57 East First Street**

The next meeting of the HPC will be held on October 12, 2006, and it will be at the Mesa Council Chambers.

**14. Adjournment at 7:40 pm (Motion made by Mrs. Wilkinson; Seconded by Mrs. Jarrett)**