



Approved Minutes
Historic Preservation Board
 (Approved on Nov. 29, 2012. Motion made by Wendy Mack-Allred and seconded by Clara Ziervogel).

Date: October 25, 2012

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: 57 E. First Street, Lower Level Chambers

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present
Donna Benge, Chair Wendy Mack-Allred Randy Mann Chad Cluff Pamela Young	Clara Ziervogel	John Wesley Julie Smiley
Guests		

1) Call meeting to order.

The October 25, 2012 meeting of the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2) Approval of the September 27, 2012 minutes.

Board Action: The September 27, 2012 minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.

First Motion made by Board member Young, and seconded by Board member Mann.

Motion carried 5-0

3) Presentation on Light Rail from Jodi Sorrell; Transit Project Manager.

No presentation took place due to scheduling conflicts. Staff will help coordinate to reschedule the presentation.

4) Discuss establishment of a historic district(s) for:

These items were reviewed and discussed.

Chair Benge noted the positive turnout on the neighborhood meeting held on October 10, 2012.

a. 2nd Avenue and Pasadena

VC Mack-Allred gave an overview of the neighborhood status, noting the residents have created a new form to help with obtaining the remaining needed signatures. A meeting took place with the Methodist Church's Board of Trustees, and more discussions are to follow. VC Mack-Allred will follow up as information comes available.

Chair Benge noted the Church's Council does not have all of the accurate information including the ownership of the church. Chair Benge noted she or other members of HPB will be of assistance to the church in clarifying the information.

Chair Benge commented on the new Goldwater Library that is to be built noting it is only a block from the United Methodist Church.

b. Washington Park-Escobedo

Mr. Wesley noted he has not received any follow up to date.

Chair Bengé noted the residents expressed interest in being recognized on the Light Rail panels for their neighborhood's history. They are working on getting that information compiled.

c. Downtown area

Chair Bengé suggested the HPB attend a Downtown Mesa Association meeting. Mr. Wesley noted that Mr. Linoff is still working with the Downtown property owners.

d. Westside/Clark

Mr. Wesley noted no follow up to date. Mr. Wesley mentioned that staff is working with the residents regarding the prop 207 waivers.

e. Sherwood

Mr. Wesley noted the residents are organizing a neighborhood meeting for November 3, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the boundary areas. One issue for national designation that will have to be addressed is why Sherwood is unique for this designation. Mr. Wesley suggested HPB work with the residents to help the State understand the national designation request.

5) Report on meeting with other valley historic preservation boards

These items were reviewed and discussed.

a. Discussion on historic highway signage

Chair Bengé mentioned on November 20, 2012 the Tempe, Phoenix, and Mesa Historic Preservation Board Chair and Vice Chair members are meeting to discuss the highway signage. The meeting will be held at the Sandra Day O'Connor House in Tempe.

Chair Bengé briefly mentioned item 7, noting Mesa will be hosting the 2013 State Historic Preservation Conference at the Hilton.

b. Other

No other items were discussed.

6) Discuss and develop strategies for updating the downtown historic signage.

This was reviewed and discussed.

Board member Mann gave an overview of his findings on the historic signs. A handout was distributed for reference from the Mesa Visitor's Center noting the original walking tour. Board member Mann noted that many plaques are still around, and some are in need of restoration. However, there were a few that are no longer in existence due to redevelopment or lost plaques. Board member Mann suggested the map be updated in order to be used at the Historic Preservation Conference. Staff will help to update the map.

Board member Mann offered to repair the plaques with help from his students, and Chair Bengé also offered that the HPB help if needed. He also asked if a letter should be provided before any work takes place. Mr. Wesley agreed especially if not in right-of-way, plus it may be beneficial to talk with the property and business owners to inform them of the tour.

Chair Bengé suggested the city plaques be included, in which Board member Mann commented that this could be added to the walking tour pamphlet.

7) Update on 2013 State Historic Preservation Conference.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Chair Bengé asked if buses could be available to help with transportation at the conference. Mr. Wesley noted that staff has been talking with Transportation but that service would be limited due to transportation regulations. Mr. Wesley also noted that there are four bus companies available, and that staff and HPB could look into.

Chair Bengé noted she has spoken with Mr. Linoff, and he has requested all the Board members be available to help with the conference. Mr. Wesley mentioned a draft agenda is expected in November from the State Historic Office.

8) Receive updates and discuss:

These items were reviewed and discussed.

a. Proposed Interpretive Historic Panels – Light Rail Stations

Chair Bengé noted no meeting has taken place yet on this item.

b. Historic preservation program for Mesa Public Schools

Board member Mann gave an update stating he has received some emails from teachers expressing interest, and that Principals have distributed the press release to the schools. The interest has been generated, and Board member Mann will continue to advertise the contest.

Mr. Wesley noted the information has been given to the Library to help circulate the contest. Chair Bengé mentioned the article in the Arizona Republic newspaper, along with the front page article on the Buckhorn Baths.

c. Report on landmark status for City Building 59 E. First Street

Chair Bengé gave a brief follow up on the discussions with the Mayor and Mr. Wesley noting that it seemed successful, but unsure of the Mayor's decision.

Chair Bengé asked if the HPB could now approach the Planning & Zoning Board (PZB) and Council regarding this topic. Mr. Wesley responded noting the issue now needed to go to a Council study session so we could get direction from the Council on how to proceed. If they do give direction to move forward with a local designation the first step would be to come back to the HPB for recommendation, then to the P&Z Board, then to Council for action. Mr. Wesley will follow up on the status.

Mr. Wesley commented a tour date has not been set due to pending several Council member schedules. The tour will be scheduled sometime in November during the week, and staff will forward once the date and time have been determined.

9) Updates on all Museums, Exhibits, Committees and Events related to Historic Preservation.

Chair Bengé noted there were no updates to report at this time for museums, exhibits or committees.

Chair Bengé and VC Mack-Allred gave an overview of a program related to historic preservation called Art Space. Chair Bengé noted Art Space has three points that help support historic preservation; they're a reputable group, provide historic restorations, and favored by the Mayor and Council.

VC Mack-Allred provided a handout and noted that Art Space works with existing buildings or vacant lands to provide affordable housing for artists. They also work with organizations to utilize maximum funding and tax credits. Board members Young, Mann and Cluff all noted that communities are looking for more unique and affordable housing.

10) Board Member Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items.

These items were reviewed and discussed.

Board member Young requested to add an agenda item to discuss her follow up findings on Board

member Mann's presentation regarding missing plaques. This would be to discuss plaques at 260 W. 2nd Ave., Pomeroy House, the first Mesa Sheriff's house, and the Nile Theater. This will be added to item #6.

a. Schedule November & December meeting dates

The Board discussed possible meeting dates and agreed to combine the November and December meeting dates to be held on November 29, 2012. The meeting location is to be determined.

VC Mack-Allred commented that she attended the Ghost Tour at Buckhorn Baths, and that there was a large turnout in which they had to have several tour groups.

Board member Young noted she will be attending the APA Conference in Illinois in April, and will report back to the Board.

11) Adjournment.

Chair Benge adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

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

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