



Approved Minutes of the Historic Preservation Board

(Approved on July 26, 2012. Motion made by Wendy Mack-Allred and seconded by Chad Cluff).

Date: June 28, 2012

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: 57 E. First Street, Lower Level Chambers

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present
Donna Benge, Chair Jared Smith, Vice-Chair Wendy Mack – Allred Barbara Jarrett	Chad Cluff Randy Mann	John Wesley Julie Smiley
Guests		
Vic Linoff; Mesa Preservation Foundation Ron Peters; Pamela Young; Resident and ASU Student		

1) Call meeting to order.

The June 28, 2012 meeting of the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2) Approval of the March 22, 2012, April 14, 2012, and the April 26, 2012 minutes.

The Board reviewed the minutes, and Chair Benge requested to change Item 7 on the April 26, 2012 minutes to state she will create talking points instead of a letter in which the Board will schedule to meet with City Council members.

The March 22, 2012 and April 14, 2012 minutes were approved with no changes. The April 26, 2012 minutes were approved with one change to Item 7.

First Motion made by Board member Mack-Allred, and seconded by Board member Jarrett. Motion carried 4-0.

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

- a. 2nd Avenue and Pasadena area
- b. Washington Park-Escobedo area
- c. Downtown area
- d. Lehi area

These items were reviewed and discussed.

a. 2nd Avenue and Pasadena area

Board member Mack-Allred noted the neighborhood has continued to meet and build support for the historic designation. They should be ready to submit their petition soon. She noted that she and Mr. Wesley will schedule a meeting with Council Member Glover to discuss their desire to create this historic district.

b. Washington Park-Escobedo area

Mr. Wesley stated he has not received any neighborhood follow up; but noted there was an election of new officers.

c. Downtown area

Mr. Linoff noted the discussions are on-going as the Foundation is still trying to meet with the Downtown property owners.

d. Lehi area

Chair Bengé noted the Lehi neighborhood wants to move forward with a national register instead of a local register.

4) Discuss the possibility of creating and presenting a workshop for neighborhoods to help them learn about creating historic districts.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Chair Bengé wanted to follow up on the progress of the neighborhood workshops with the emphasis on the Washington Park-Escobedo area. Staff will follow up to see if there is still interest from the neighborhoods.

Chair Bengé noted there needs to be more exploration on how to designate Washington Park as a historic neighborhood. Mr. Wesley noted the neighborhood's cultural history has a stronger case than its structures in becoming a historic neighborhood. However, noted it may be a challenge to designate the neighborhood locally as the zoning is tied to the structures not history, and that the residents may need to look at a national designation. However, there needs to be resident involvement in order to move forward.

Vice Chair Smith stated there needs to be a push for a local designation and not necessarily the national designation. Also, thought it would be beneficial to continue to talk with the residents on the benefits of local designation.

Mr. Peters gave some insight stating the State is moving forward with funding for re-development and re-construction of the Washington Park-Escobedo area. He suggested for staff to contact LISC regarding this to help be more involved with the process.

Mr. Wesley also suggested that staff could look into adding a new zoning overlay to the Zoning Ordinance that can designate a neighborhood conversation zone in which helps to conserve the neighborhood character which is not tied to the neighborhood structures.

Mr. Wesley wanted to follow up with Board noting he thought this item was more a general plan to help all neighborhoods. Chair Bengé agreed and the Board discussed on how to generate motivation and support. Some items discussed were to provide the residents the tools on how to get a designation, find out what tax benefits are available, and what if any benefits the conservation zoning overlay may offer. Also, to have other designated neighborhood residents attend workshops to help gain support and answer questions. Vice Chair Smith also suggested providing the residents brochures and or do-it-yourself packets. Board member Mack-Allred will work on creating the packets.

Chair Bengé noted discussions will continue on this item.

5) Discuss and develop strategies for assisting in the preservation of Buckhorn Baths.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Chair Bengé noted the project is now on the bond issue, and created a draft letter to Council signifying support. Mr. Wesley requested an electronic copy of the letter that staff can send out to the Board for review, and noted at the next meeting the Board can take action on approving the letter.

6) Discuss and develop strategies for historic highway signage for former US Highways 60, 70, 80, and 89 on Main Street.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Mr. Wesley gave update stating that the Traffic Department has not had time to work on the signs yet,

but hopes by the July meeting will have something to present to the Board. Chair Bengé asked if the City will pay for the signs, if not, will need to look into getting sponsors to pay for the signs.

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

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Chair Bengé noted Board member Mann looked at all of the downtown signs and suggested some of the signs need to be replaced. The Board discussed how the signs could be paid for with suggestions of contacting the Natural History Museum or the Historical Society to see if grants are available.

8) Discuss contents of a letter that can be used to inform Councilmembers regarding historic preservation accomplishments and initiatives.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Chair Bengé gave the Board members a handout on the talking points to use when they meet with Council members.

9) Presentation by Ron Peters regarding a nomination for landmark status of City Building 59 E. First Street.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Mr. Peters provided a handout and gave a presentation on the importance of saving the First Street City Building. Mr. Peters requested consideration from the Board to help preserve the building by helping it become a local historic landmark then move forward in the national register nomination process.

Board member Mack-Allred suggested putting this on the iMesa website for voting. Mr. Linoff also suggested to provide more education, and to work with City Council members to help gain support.

The Board moved to nominate City Building at 59 E. First Street as a historical building with recommendation and support for this structure to be designated as a local historical landmark.

First motion made by Vice Chair Smith, and seconded by Board member Jarrett.
Motion carried 4-0.

10) Receive update on and discuss:

- a. Proposed Interpretive Historic Panels – Light Rail Stations
- b. Historic preservation program for Mesa Public Schools
- c. Report on the Historic Preservation Conference held on June 13-15

This item was reviewed and discussed.

a. Proposed Interpretive Historic Panels – Light Rail Stations

Chair Bengé and Vice Chair Smith gave a brief update stating photos are still being reviewed, and need to schedule a meeting with the Natural History Museum to review their photo repository. Vice Chair Smith will forward photos that he found to Mr. Linoff for possible consideration.

Mr. Linoff noted the timeframe is on schedule, and they are continuing to work with Metro.

b. Historic Preservation program for Mesa Public Schools

Chair Bengé has no information to report, and will follow up next month.

c. Report on the Historic Preservation Conference held on June 13-15

Chair Bengé gave a brief overview of the conference. One of many items she took away from the conference would be the opportunity to meet with other regional HP Board members to help develop and establish working relationships.

Mr. Wesley noted he learned of a new feature for smartphones called Geo Reader (mygeoreader.com). This free app tells you about historic properties you are located by. Also, that this could help to generate revenues, but not sure exactly how that works as he will need to research more on the product.

Board member Mack-Allred noted she enjoyed learning how to incorporate re-use by using green products. However, noted she provided a suggestion on their questionnaire that they provide a tour of their historic districts as she had a hard time finding them.

Mr. Linoff noted Mesa was featured at the conference noting some of adaptive reuse ideas for the Sunkist Building, and looking for possible funding sources. Also, noted that Mesa has been lobbied to be the 2013 host; however hotel arrangements that are still being discussed.

11) Updates on all Museum, Exhibits, Committees and Events related to Historic Preservation.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Mr. Linoff noted the Diving Lady project is still moving forward.

Vice Chair Smith gave an update on the Save Our Train Committee. He noted the committee's booth at the Mesa Day of Play event was successful as they were able to raise \$200 from donations and tee-shirt sales. Also, stated he met a gentleman from the Hawes family whose father filmed the locomotive being moved in the late 1950s. The Locomotive #2355 footage is on You Tube showing how the track was moved into the Pioneer Park.

Chair Bengé asked Vice Chair Smith the status of getting the locomotive as a historical landmark. Vice Chair Smith responded that the committee is aware of how important it is to be on the Park bond, and that they are scheduled to attend the next Parks Board meeting as an agenda item to help voice the vision of the locomotive and why it is important to continue to move forward.

Vice Chair Smith thanked the Board and Mr. Linoff and Mr. Peters, as well as staff as he has enjoyed working with them and looks forward to now being a volunteer. Mr. Linoff also thanked both Vice Chair Smith and Board member Jarrett for their service with HPB.

12) Committee Member Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

The Board agreed to remove item 3d. Replace item 10c with Historic Preservation Conference 2013. Move item 9 and add as item 10d. Add new agenda items of review and approve the Annual Report, and the election of new officers.

13) Adjournment.

Chair Bengé adjourned the meeting at 7:35 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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