



Approved Minutes  
**Historic Preservation Board**

(Approved on Dec. 11, 2014. Motion made by Wendy Mack-Allred and seconded by Dane Astle).

**Date:** October 23, 2014

**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 Janice Gennevois Dane Astle Annalisa Alvrus, Ph.D.	Bernard Dawson	John Wesley Kim Steadman Rebecca Gorton	Vic Linoff Donna Bengé David Short

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

2. Approval of the September 25, 2014 minutes

Board Action: The September 25, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved with amended change to item 3, paragraph 9 to add "not" to "the full length".

First motion made by Vice Chair Mack-Allred and seconded by Board member Shaffer-Metcalf. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Chair Taylor introduced the new Board member, Annalisa Alvrus, Ph.D., and asked Board member Alvrus and all the other members to give a quick review of their background and interest of the Board.
4. Presentation by David Short from the Downtown Mesa Association

David Short, Director of Downtown Mesa Association (DMA) gave a presentation on the overall services and responsibilities that they provide. The Association is a private, nonprofit organization formed almost 30 years ago and provides many of the events downtown. Some of the other services they provide include maintenance and cleanup of downtown, graffiti removal, and parking enforcement within the interior square mile between Broadway and University and Country Club and Mesa Drive. The Board consists of thirty-four (34) members made up of property and business owners.

Mr. Short opened the floor to the Board to answer any questions they may have for him. Chair Taylor asked for some updates from the previous meeting that Mr. Short spoke at. The first question is if the property owners have a desire to maintain the historic façade of the buildings. Mr. Short responded that there was a property owner committee meeting the week before where approximately 20 property owners attended. Mr. Short stated that they are open to maintaining the facade and would like to bring back the historic nature of the community and what is necessary to bring the properties back to a historic nature.

The next question that Chair Taylor asked was for an update on when the Goldwater Library will open. Mr. Short stated that he has not heard much on this at all. Chair Taylor asked if this property is in the downtown area and Mr. Wesley stated the site has been selected is on the southeast corner of Macdonald and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue.

Chair Taylor discussed the electronic newsletter provided by the DMA and encouraged Board members to sign up to receive it. Mr. Taylor informed Mr. Short of the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue survey which is south of downtown. Chair Taylor asked Mr. Short how the HPB and DMA could work together on this project. Mr. Short suggested that the DMA could provide their meeting room at 100 N. Center as well as be utilized for outreach purposes.

Chair Taylor asked Mr. Short for suggestions on working together to increase the Board's visibility and profile and to get more public exposure. Mr. Taylor proposed that a Board member could attend several of the community events by having a table, banner and some brochures as a meet and greet. Mr. Short suggested that the highest profile events would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday event and the MACFest, a Mesa Arts and Crafts Festival which occurs every first and third Saturday. Another suggestion was for a Board member to attend a DMA meeting and can be added to the agenda to speak.

5. Update on 2015 writing contest

Board member Schaffer-Metcalf updated the Board on the status of the writing contest. Ms. Schaffer-Metcalf stated that she has contacted the Curriculum Coordinator for Elementary Education at Mesa Schools who has placed the information on their curriculum feed. This allows teachers access to assign the writing contest to their students. The Coordinator will also put the information on their website. Board member Schaffer-Metcalf has also contacted Dr. Luna, Director of the Public Schools Education Television and a City of Mesa Councilmember to inquire placing the information on Channel 99. This information has been forwarded to Helen Holland, Director of Marketing and Community Outreach and Ms. Schaffer-Metcalf will follow up with her next week. Ms. Schaffer-Metcalf stated that Mesa has a nice magazine called Achieve that reaches over 34,000 residents which would be another good source.

Board member Schaffer-Metcalf also contacted the principals of the three private schools in town and will be providing the information packet to them in the next few weeks. Board member Gennevois has volunteered to drop off the information packets to the three schools so that they have the materials sooner. This was greatly appreciated by the Chair.

6. Discuss and plan for Historic property owners' Open House

Mr. Wesley and Board member Gennevois stated that they have not heard back from the West Mesa CDC about the idea of an Open House since the last Board meeting. Mr. Wesley stated what the CDC planned is more of an education and training program than an Open House. The Board decided that a better way for the HPB to be visible would be to focus on the Downtown 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday. Chair Taylor asked that this item be added to the December agenda for further discussion.

7. Discuss strategies for obtaining a full-time Historic Preservation Officer

Chair Taylor stated that he has drafted a letter to the Mayor and City Council requesting consideration of a full time HPO and is seeking input from the Board. To begin, Chair Taylor asked Mr. Wesley when the position of Historic Preservation Officer was last terminated. Mr. Wesley stated that he recalls the position was filled in early 2008 and the person that held the position did resign later that year. At that time the City was moving into the 2008 slow down and the City could not hire a replacement with the layoffs that were occurring.

Mr. Taylor confirmed that the next budget year will be 2015 – 2016. Chair Taylor stated that he has been trying to confirm the requirements of being a Certified Local Government (CLG) and if it is necessary to have a full-time HPO. Mr. Taylor stated that he has been unsuccessful in finding this information and has contacted the CLG representative at the SHPO office for guidance. He has not heard back from him as yet. Board member Gennevois stated that she is working with Jim Garrison at the SHPO office and can ask Mr. Garrison if there is documentation that shows the requirement. Mr. Wesley stated that he will provide a copy of a proposal that he created a year ago where he found an agreement between the City of Mesa and State of Arizona in which it implies that the City must have a designated HPO.

Chair Taylor read an email that Board member Dawson sent as he was unable to attend the meeting. Board member Dawson asked that the Board consider the use of an intern as the HPO. There was discussion regarding which Board member Mr. Dawson was referring to. Board member Gennevois stated that she is exploring three career choices and one is a career in Historic Preservation. Although she has not made the decision yet, perhaps he is talking of her and would be a possibility as an intern.

Chair Taylor further discussed the three main areas that he is focusing on in the letter. They are the CLG requirements, work load and focusing on how the HPO would be intertwined with some of the cities' objectives, initiatives, and goals. Chair Taylor will be referencing the Mesa 2040 General Plan and the need to implement the General Plan. Mr. Taylor will hold off on the letter until after the election so that he can state in the letter that the General Plan was approved by the voters. Chair Taylor will share the draft with the other Board members through Mr. Wesley's office and at the next meeting have a final draft to approve by the Board.

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

a. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Pasadena

Mr. Wesley stated that the consultant, Vince Murray, has been selected and staff is finalizing the contract. Mr. Murray will complete the work within twelve (12) weeks. Mr. Wesley preferred to start the project at the beginning of next year however Mr. Murray will start in the next few weeks. The first step will be to plan how to utilize the volunteers.

b. Federal Building

No updates

c. Buckhorn Baths

Mr. Vic Linoff updated the Board and stated that he feels there will be a contract signed within 30 days. The Arizona Museum of History was asked by the City Manager to look at and provide a list of the contents to the City.

d. Downtown

Mr. Linoff informed the Board that there had been a recent meeting with the downtown business owners group to lay the groundwork to discuss creating a commercial historic district. Mr. Linoff stated that there was a general acceptance of the concept.

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

Donna Benge stated that the foundation has received a donation of one half of the \$3,000.00 needed for the signage. Signs will be placed at the East and West entrance of the City, two bordering downtown, one sign near the Diving Lady and one at the Buckhorn Baths. A new brochure will be out soon which will have a paragraph discussing the importance of the Highways to the City.

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

Mr. Linoff informed the Board that the panels should be ready as soon as November for City approval.

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

No comments or updates.

12. Adjournment

Chair Taylor adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

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

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

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