



Approved Minutes of the
Historic Preservation Board

(Approved on August 23, 2012. First motion by Vice Chair Mack-Allred, and seconded by Board member Ziervogel)

Date: July 26, 2012

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: 57 E. First Street, Lower Level Chambers

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present
Donna Bengé, Chair Wendy Mack – Allred Chad Cluff Randy Mann Pamela Young Barry Roth Clara Ziervogel		John Wesley Julie Smiley Elisa Spangler
Guests		
Vic Linoff; Mesa Preservation Foundation Dr. Jerry Howard; AZ Museum of Natural History		

1) Call meeting to order.

The July 26, 2012 meeting of the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2) Approval of the June 28, 2012 minutes.

Board member Mack-Allred wanted a clarification on Item 3a regarding her review of this item. Staff reviewed the audio from this meeting and updated. The wording “review process was approved” was removed, and updated to read; “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”.

The Board unanimously agreed to approve the June 28, 2012 minutes with the conditional change to Item 3a.

First motion made by Board member Mack-Allred, and seconded by Board member Cluff.
 Motion carried 7-0

3) Introduction of new HPB Members.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Chair Bengé began and requested each member to introduce themselves noting there were three new HPB members. Chair Bengé also introduced the guests

4) Election of new HPB Officers.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

The Board voted on the elections of Chair and Vice Chair positions.

Chair Bengé was re-elected as the HPB Chairperson. First motion made by Board member Mack-Allred, and seconded by Board member Mann.

Motion carried 7-0

Board member Wendy Mack-Allred was elected as the HPB Vice Chairperson. First motion made by

Board member Ziervogel, and seconded by Board member Mann.
Motion carried 7-0

- 5) Discuss establishment of a historic district(s) for:**
- a. 2nd Avenue and Pasadena area
 - b. Washington Park-Escobedo area
 - c. Downtown area

These items were reviewed and discussed

a. 2nd Avenue and Pasadena area

Vice Chair (VC) Mack-Allred provided a handout of the status report noting neighbors have almost received all the required signatures. Once the signatures are received she will forward to Mr. Wesley to begin the review and approval process through the City protocols for local designation.

VC Mack-Allred also noted that she, Chair Bengé and Mr. Wesley will schedule to meet with SHPO to request they approve the 1992 survey with updated photos showing the neighborhood changes as well as possible grant options.

b. Washington Park-Escobedo area

Mr. Wesley noted there were no new updates to report. He will follow up in September if he has not heard from the neighbors regarding their designation request.

VC Mack-Allred noted she has been working on an educational package for neighbors that will include contact companies, forms, and website addresses on where to begin designating an historical neighborhood. Board member Young asked if the information could be listed on the Planning/HP website. Once the package is completed the information will be available on-line.

Chair Bengé noted the creation of neighborhood workshops, and that this package would be beneficial to have available at the meetings.

c. Downtown area

Mr. Linoff noted the discussions are on-going, and there is nothing new to report.

- 6) Discuss strategies for creating and presenting neighborhood workshops to inform about creating historic districts.**

Chair Bengé asked staff when the best time would be to begin advertising for the workshops. Mr. Wesley suggested the fall season around October. Chair Bengé requested to reserve if available Room 170 of the Mesa City Plaza for mid-October, and to advertise in the newspaper, Channel 11, and to mail invitations to other historic districts for support and participation.

- 7) Approval of support letter, and discuss strategies for assisting in the preservation of Buckhorn Baths.**

This item was reviewed and discussed.

The Board reviewed and unanimously agreed to approve the letter as written to Council supporting the preservation of the Buckhorn Baths.

First motion made by VC Mack-Allred, and seconded by Board member Young.
Motion carried 7-0

- 8) 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.

A handout was provided showing possible historic highway sign designs. The Board discussed the designs, sign costs, and requested to have other designs provided for more options. The Board also discussed possible ways to reduce the costs such as; sponsorships, donations, or City contributions. Mr. Wesley will look into the availability of City contributions, as well as researching other design options, and will bring back to the next meeting.

Chair Bengé requested Mr. Wesley forward to the new members the background of the historical highways. Mr. Wesley will email the document.

Mr. Linoff offered to send Mr. Wesley for HPB distribution his copies of historical photos of the US Highway 60 as possible design suggestions.

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

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Board member Mann gave an update of his findings, and noted he is working on a notebook of the sign pictures he took and will present at the next meeting. He also noted that some signs will need to be repaired and that there will be associated costs. The Board may need to look for sponsorships or donations to help cover the costs. This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

10) Discuss Historic Preservation accomplishments and initiatives.

- a. Discuss talking points used to inform Councilmembers.**
- b. Councilmember assignment for HPB members.**

These items were reviewed and discussed.

a. Discuss talking points used to inform Councilmembers.

Chair Bengé distributed a handout of the talking points to the HPB members for review and preparation.

b. Councilmember assignment for HPB members.

Chair Bengé distributed a sign-up sheet for the HPB members to assign themselves to a Councilmember.

Item 12c was moved and discussed.

Chair Bengé is in the process of contacting Councilmembers to help educate them on the history of the IT Building prior the vote to help save the building, and designate as a local landmark.

Chair Bengé also gave a brief history of the IT Building to the Board. Board member Ziervogel requested a copy of the building overview. Staff will email the document to the new members.

11) Review and approve Annual Report.

This item was reviewed and discussed.

VC Mack-Allred provided a handout of the report. The Board reviewed the Annual Report, and unanimously agreed to approve the report as written.

First motion made by Board member Ziervogel and seconded by Board member Roth.
Motion carried 7-0

12) Receive update on and discuss:

- a. Proposed Interpretive Historic Panels – Light Rail Stations**

b. Historic Preservation program for Mesa Public Schools

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

These items were reviewed and discussed, except Item 12c.

a. Proposed Interpretive Historic Panels – Light Rail Stations

Mr. Linoff gave an overview of the project, and noted it is moving forward. He has been working with the graphic designer, and once completed will forward for approval from the HPB, City Manager, and Council. Mr. Linoff also noted the panels will be installed as part of the Art Program when the Light Rail opens. The panels will also have QR codes for smartphones that will give information about the panel photos.

b. Historic Preservation program for Mesa Public Schools

Board member Mann provided a handout and gave a brief explanation of the program that would be directed towards elementary school students (4th, 5th, 6th students) in the form of a writing contest. He suggested having information available on the HP website that would explain the contest rules, how they would be judged, helpful resources, forms, as well as offering awards. Board member Mann has the ability to distribute to the Mesa Public Schools, but not sure about Charter schools.

Mr. Wesley asked if the students who are outside of Mesa Public School District, but still live in Mesa if they will be included in the contest. Board member Mann is not sure he will have access to other school districts within Mesa, and will have to look into.

VC Mack-Allred asked if all students will get some sort of an award for participating. The Board discussed and agreed that each student should receive a letter of acknowledgment. The contest will take place in the fall of the 2013 school year. Board member Mann will forward the contest form to the Board for review and feedback.

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

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Dr. Jerry Howard of the Arizona Museum of Natural History discussed some of the work the museum has been involved in including Mesa Grande and Riverview.

Dr. Howard noted the opening of Mesa Grande Cultural Park which will also have a Visitors Center. The funding has been acquired and the expected construction date is scheduled for September. He also encouraged the Board to visit the museum as there is an exhibit of interpretive signage that explains the areas located at the Mesa Grande site.

Dr. Howard also noted the Riverview project which will be home to the new Cubs Stadium. He talked about the findings of the prehistoric channels of the Hohokam Indians as well as new dating techniques used for more accuracy.

Chair Bengé offered the Board members passes to visit the museum if they were interested.

Mr. Linoff discussed the Mesa Historical Museum, and how the Mesa Foundation Board is working with the City to get the Lehi area as part of the City center. He also noted the museum displays of three exhibits including Play Ball, and some artwork from Buckhorn Baths.

Mr. Linoff also gave a brief history of the Mesa Preservation Foundation, as well as his work with the foundation and the HPB. Mr. Linoff noted the Buckhorn Baths will be included in the upcoming November bond package, and asked that members vote through iMesa to help support the project.

Mr. Linoff also talked about the continued work on the Diving Lady. He noted fundraising is on-going, and once the signs are installed, they will move forward with designation as a local landmark and national register nomination. Board member Ziervogel asked what the owner plans are for the motel. Mr. Linoff responded stating the Foundation continues to work with the owner, but their vision is that it

will remain operational. However, he noted the sign cannot be sold as it must stay with the property. Chair Bengé noted a Conservation Easement has been proposed that specifies the protection of the sign in the event the property is sold.

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

This item was reviewed and discussed.

Mr. Wesley noted the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee has donated a tile to the HPB in their name that will be part of a wall at the Alston House. Mr. Wesley asked the Board what name they would like on the tile. It was suggested to use Mesa Historic Preservation Board if it will fit, or to be at the discretion of Mr. Wesley.

Mr. Wesley confirmed the next meeting agenda items. Items 4, 7, 10 and 11 will be removed, and there were no new items to add.

Chair Bengé noted she submitted new photographs to staff that will need to be replaced on the website. Mentioned she is contacting other regional HP Boards to see how they operate. Lastly, Chair Bengé and Mr. Linoff noted they continue to wait to see if the 2013 Historic Preservation Conference will be held in Mesa. They hope to have an answer by next month.

15) Adjournment.

Chair Bengé adjourned the meeting at 7:47 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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