



Minutes of the
Historic Preservation Committee

Date: **September 22, 2011**

Time: **6:00 p.m.**

Location: Room 170, Mesa City Plaza, 20 East Main

Members Present	Staff Present	Others Present
Jared Smith, Chair Donna Benge, Vice Chair Barbara Jarrett Chad Cluff	John Wesley Carol Haddad Debbie Archuleta	Wendy Mack – Allred Dr. Jerry Howard
Members Absent	Support Present	
Randy Mann Jeff Jarvis		

1. Call to Order

The September 22, 2011 meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Approval of minutes. Consider minutes of the July 28, 2011 meeting. Vice Chair Donna Benge moved they be approved. Barbara Jarrett 2nd the motion. Minutes approved.

3. Election of officers.

Boardmember Jarrett nominated Donna Benge as Chair, Chair Smith seconded the motion

Vote: 4 – 0

Boardmember Benge nominated Jared Smith as Vice-Chair, Boardmember Jarrett seconded the motion

Vote: 4 – 0

4. Review and Provide input on proposed Interpretive History Panels – Light Rail Stations.

Vice Chair Bengé stated they were still looking for photos that could be helpful.

Chair Smith stated they had looked at a lot of photos at the Mesa Historical Library. He stated there would be a meeting at the Coffee House in the old Nile Theatre building on West Main October 6th at 6:00 p.m. The project was moving along well. He stated they would be meeting with the graphic design, and they should have the photos ready so they can choose. They wanted to narrow it down so there would not be too many choices. He stated they had determined what they want to see on the panels.

5. Discuss establishment of a historic district(s) for downtown Mesa.

Vic Linoff and Ron Peters are working on this.

6. Historic Preservation Awards.

Planning Director John Wesley stated they need to re-invigorate.

Vice Chair Bengé stated they need a press release so they can get nominations. She suggested a deadline of February 1st. She stated they need to find out where the forms are.

Chair Smith stated the awards would probably be next spring. He knew the forms existed, he thought they might be on the web site.

Boardmember Cluff asked if the awards would go to people or structures.

Chair Smith stated they would go to people, structures, or organizations. He stated you can nominate someone or something, or you can self-nominate. He thought the forms were ready to go. He wanted the forms to be easy to find on the web site, and be conspicuous.

Boardmember Cluff suggested using Facebook

Mr. Wesley stated if the goal was for early April, they would need to notify recipients in March, therefore the deadline would need to be in February. He stated staff could put them in the lobby of the Municipal Building, 55 North Center.

7. Update from the Historic Highway Signage Sub-committee.

Vice Chair Bengé stated they were going to include ideas on the light rail panels. The sub-committee discussed a highway sign near the diving lady after she goes up. She didn't know if the City could help with that. She stated they wanted a list of the four different highways. She thought they needed to say the highways were coast to coast and that 89 was Mexico to Canada.

Chair Smith confirmed the Committee did not have a budget. He asked if they could show the four different highway signs in different locations, then have a plaque. It could be near the light rail. He wanted to look at using electronic media.

Mr. Wesley stated it might be possible to ask the sign shop at Transportation to make the signs. He stated they would need to think about where people would have the chance to slow down to see the signs. Maybe near the train at Pioneer Park. He suggested as the sub-committees are looking through old photos, they could look for photos of the old signs.

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

Dr. Howard stated the Mesa Grande conceptual plans had been passed by the Design Review Board, and they were now working on the construction drawings. The rammed earth wall was now being incorporated into the structure as well as the wall. They hoped to be complete by the February Centennial. He stated Mesa Grande would be the City's only centennial project.

Mr. Wesley stated they are now a Board, not a Committee. He said that one thing they were supposed to be doing was an annual report.

Wendy Mack was working on the annual report, and showed a draft to the Board. She stated the report would be 4 fold on legal paper.

Chair Smith and Vice Chair Bengé wanted photos of the diving lady. Wendy Mack stated she would work with Mr. Wesley to get the photos in.

Regarding historic districts, Wendy Mack had been talking to people from the 2 Avenue neighborhood. She was trying to get representatives from the neighborhood to work on the historic district. She took photos of all the houses. She stated 62 houses were potentially eligible. Pasadena to Serrine, 2nd Avenue to 1st Avenue. Wendy Mack stated Palmer Court needed to be saved.

Regarding the Mesa Preservation Foundation Chair Smith stated they had a fundraiser for the diving lady. There were 97 people there, it was a good event. Westcor donated the space and the tables and chairs. Vice Chair Bengé sold raffle tickets. Waldo's donated food. Ron Peters and Dennis Kavanaugh helped a lot. Vice Chair Bengé stated they need an electrician who will work pro-bono. The diving ladies were finished, they were working on the motel letters. She stated the daughter of the people who put up the ladies was in attendance. This project was the first in the U.S. to write a conservation easement.

9. Committee Member Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda items.

The agenda would be basically the same as the September meeting. Chair Smith wanted 2nd Avenue to be added as a B. for item 5.

Mr. Wesley informed the Board that there would be open houses for the Central Main Plan. Tuesday, September 27th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Mesa Junior High Cafeteria. Monday, October 3rd, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, October 4th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Arizona Museum for Youth. Mr. Wesley agreed to send the Board an e-mail regarding the open houses.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:07