

CITY OF MESA
MINUTES OF THE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: May 10, 2001 **TIME:** 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Victor Linoff
Vince Anderson
David Dean
Pat Mendivil

STAFF PRESENT

Kathy Guthmiller
Greg Marek
Tony Felice

OTHERS PRESENT

Debbie Abele
Gabriela Dorigo
Chris Miller
Ernest R. Porter
Liz Wilson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lori Osiecki
Boyd Thacker
Dan Eccles

1. Call to Order

The May 10, 2001 Regular Meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee was called to order at 4:06 p.m.

2. Consider Minutes of April 12, 2001 Regular Meeting

**It was moved by David Dean, seconded by Vince Anderson, to
RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE April 12, 2001 Minutes, as amended.**

**Vote: 4 in favor
0 opposed**

3. Items from Citizens Present (no action to be taken)

No items from citizens present.

4. Update on Historic Preservation Plan

Ms. Debbie Abele discussed the Historic Preservation Plan's progress, handing out a draft outline. Ms. Abele summarized points of the outline, and noted the importance of gaining input from City Staff and the public. For this reason, focus group sessions are being held on May 14th and 19th. Draft agendas were

distributed to Historic Preservation Committee members. Ms. Abele gave an overview of what would be happening at the focus group sessions, and how the results would be integrated with the Historic Preservation Plan. A draft is to be presented in June.

Mr. Marek informed Committee members that Staff may not have sufficient resources to handle the work program that could result from implementation of the Historic Preservation Plan.

Chair Victor Linoff noted that by going through this process, the level of awareness is being raised as the Historic Preservation Plan becomes a part of the City's General Plan.

Mr. Marek clarified that only parts of the Historic Preservation Plan will be incorporated into the General Plan.

Ms. Abele stated that she was impressed with the response rate of the historic preservation survey, and the number of people willing to participate in the focus group sessions. Ms. Abele introduced her associates, Liz Wilson and Gabriela Dorigo.

Ms. Wilson and Ms. Dorigo presented the survey results, passing around graphs to show the responses.

"Limited community awareness/appreciation" was perceived as the biggest threat to Mesa's historic, architectural, and archeological resources. From a list of possible types of preservation assistance, 68% of survey respondents felt that both financial assistance and technical help for restoration/rehabilitation should be offered.

In response to the survey question about the respondents' past involvement with Mesa's Historic Preservation program, the four most popular categories were:

1. planning/development project
2. information requested
3. National Register of Historic Places
4. local designation

The rating for assistance given by Historic Preservation staff was very high. A list of survey comments on the importance of historic buildings was distributed. Mr. Marek indicated that the survey comments, graphs, and focus group results could be compiled and used as an addendum.

5. Discuss Comments on the Revisions to the “Historic Homes of Mesa Design Guidelines” Document

Mr. Felice discussed comments received regarding revisions to the “Historic Homes of Mesa Design Guidelines” document. Mr. Felice noted that Section 1.9 will be cut out of the document because it is more of an action plan, and should be incorporated into the Historic Preservation Plan.

Mr. Marek gave an overview of the document and stated that final comments would need to be gathered before presenting the input to Don Ryden.

Historic Preservation Committee members discussed the contents of, and possible revisions to, the “Historic Homes of Mesa Design Guidelines” document.

6. Director’s Report

a.) Update on Historic Preservation Program Issues

Mr. Marek informed the Committee that Ms. Chris Miller and Ms. Tracy Wright Wagner are new members of the Historic Preservation Committee; their term will begin on July 1st of this year. They will be replacing Mr. Dan Eccles and Mr. Boyd Thacker.

Mr. Marek updated Committee members on the Historic District sign installation. The West Second Street Historic District has been completed. A 72” x 18” Temple Historic sign has been installed at 1st Avenue and Mesa Drive. The sign blanks for the Temple and Evergreen Historic Districts have come in, and fabrication should be completed by May 15th, and May 21st, respectively. The sign blanks for the Wilbur Historic District should be in around May 15th. The Wilbur District is estimated to be completed around May 28th, after the Evergreen District.

The unveiling ceremony is being planned for 9 a.m. on May 22nd, to be held at the southwest corner of Macdonald and West Second Street (in the West Second Street Historic District). A press release will be issued.

Mr. Marek noted a verbal report was received from Don Ryden regarding the two hangars at Falcon Field. Mr. Ryden said the hangars are eligible for listing on the National Register. Staff is waiting to receive the official report.

7. Committee Member Comments and Questions and Future Agenda Items

Chair Linoff encouraged Historic Preservation Committee members to attend one of the Historic Preservation focus group sessions.

Members discussed which session would work best for each of them.

Mr. Marek spoke on behalf of Historic Preservation Committee member Lori Osiecki, asking Committee members to discuss a possible time change for the monthly meeting that would be more accommodating to her schedule.

Chair Linoff requested that the Committee discuss this as an agenda item for the month of June.

Chair Linoff noted the great press coverage concerning the Historic Preservation Awards Program.

8. Adjournment

5:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory J. Marek, Historic Preservation Officer
Minutes prepared by Kathy Guthmiller