

CITY OF MESA

MINUTES OF THE *HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE*

DATE: March 8, 2001 **TIME:** 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Victor Linoff
Lori Osiecki
Vince Anderson
David Dean
Pat Mendivil

STAFF PRESENT

Kathy Guthmiller
Greg Marek
Amy Morales

OTHERS PRESENT

Debbie Abele
Tracy W. Wagner

MEMBERS ABSENT

Boyd Thacker
Dan Eccles

1. Call to Order

The March 8, 2001 Regular Meeting of the Historic Preservation Committee was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. Consider Minutes of February 8, 2001 Regular Meeting

It was moved by Lori Osiecki, seconded by Pat Mendivil, to RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE February 8, 2001 Minutes, as amended.

**Vote: 5 in favor
0 opposed**

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

Ms. Tracy W. Wagner noted the success of the Mesa Historical Museum's "Historic Home and Garden Tour," and thanked Historic Preservation Committee members for their support.

4. Update on Historic Preservation Plan

Mr. Greg Marek introduced Ms. Debbie Abele, who was hired to prepare the Historic Preservation Plan.

Ms. Abele offered a brief background on her experience, and then explained the approach she is using to complete the Preservation Plan. Ms. Abele handed out a draft

of the survey that will be sent out to the following three different groups:

1. Historic property owners
2. Citizens that have had some involvement with the preservation program
3. City Staff

Ms. Abele noted that the survey was designed to be easy to read and inviting to complete.

The survey should help determine issues that people feel preservation programs need to deal with. Also, the survey should give some indication of the type of assistance that is appropriate for the City to provide.

On another level, the survey will look at those who actually worked with the Historic Preservation Program, and understand how they've been involved.

Ms. Abele discussed different sections of the survey, noting that she included one open-ended question. She also pointed out that the last question asked for volunteers to participate in a focus group. Historic Preservation Committee members will be included in the focus group when it is organized.

Ms. Abele briefed Committee members on the project's timeline and overall process. She noted that the survey should be mailed out in approximately one week. Any comments from Committee members regarding the survey draft are due by Wednesday, March 14th. Absent Committee members are to be notified of the draft and due date by fax.

Chair Victor Linoff asked how many surveys are going to be mailed out.

Ms. Abele stated that 600 surveys will be mailed out; 500 to Historic District Property owners, 50 to City Staff, and 50 to "at-large" community members.

Chair Linoff suggested that a cover letter from the Historic Preservation Committee be mailed with each survey.

Mr. Marek stated that Staff would work on a cover letter for Chair Linoff to review.

Ms. Lori Osiecki suggested having a representative from each district be a contact person and call people to encourage them to fill out and return the survey.

Mr. David Dean asked if the survey would also be conducted on a broader scale, reaching a larger group of the City's population.

Ms. Abele answered that the larger community process is more related to the plan update process. Time and money is not available to do an adequate sample of the larger population. For this survey's purpose, it is more useful to focus on the constituents involved.

Mr. Marek noted that the intention is to reach the people who are trying to do something with their property, or need Historic Preservation services.

5. Discuss Historic District Sign Installation

Ms. Amy Morales updated Historic Preservation Committee members on the installation of Historic District street signs, and showed a photo of a newly installed sign. Ms. Morales stated that parts for the other street signs are on order, and once those parts come in, a new project schedule for installation will be prepared.

Committee members agreed that the new sign was much easier to read than previous versions.

6. Discuss and Consider *Most Endangered Properties List* by Arizona Preservation Foundation

Mr. Marek informed Committee members of the *Most Endangered Properties List* that is compiled annually. April 1st is this year's deadline to submit any Mesa properties.

It was moved by David Dean, seconded by Vince Anderson, to recommend nominating Mesa Grande for the *Most Endangered Properties List*.

Ms. Pat Mendivil suggested also including Buckhorn Baths in the nomination for the *Most Endangered Properties List*, amending the previous motion as follows:

It was moved by Vince Anderson, seconded by Pat Mendivil, to recommend nominating Mesa Grande and Buckhorn Baths to the *Most Endangered Properties List*.

**Vote: 5 in favor
0 opposed**

7. Director's Report

a.) Update on Historic Preservation Program Issues – 2001 Historic Preservation Awards Program

Mr. Marek reminded Committee members of the submittal deadline for the 2001 Historic Preservation Awards Program, noting that so far only one submittal has been received. Committee members discussed various possible nominees. Additional nomination forms were handed out; information packets including the nomination form will be faxed to absent Committee members. Award recipients will be chosen at the next Historic Preservation Committee meeting.

b.) Update on Sistine House Landscaping Issues

Mr. Marek noted that he spoke with Gerry Gerber regarding Sistine House landscaping issues. Ms. Gerber is interested in discussing the landscaping issues when her schedule allows. Staff will continue to follow up on this item.

c.) Update on Field Trip to Williams Gateway Airport

Committee members decided to take a field trip to Williams Gateway Airport on Wednesday, April 4th, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Committee members will meet in the Redevelopment Office by 1:30 p.m. and carpool to the site.

8. Committee Member Comments and Questions and Future Agenda Items

Mr. Marek updated Historic Preservation Committee members on Section 106 reviews, and letters of concurrence.

Mr. Marek informed Committee members that an architectural design was selected by the Fire Committee for Fire Station 201, and that the neighborhood public meeting will be on March 19th. The Historic Preservation Committee will be considering the plans at its May meeting.

Mr. Marek noted that a trash dump dating to the late 1890s was discovered while fiber optic cable was being installed on Center Street. Currently, no procedures are in place to deal with such discoveries. Mr. Marek stated that development of appropriate procedures is necessary to apply in these instances.

Chair Linoff suggested formulating the procedures in conjunction with the Preservation Plan.

9. Adjournment

5:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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