



Historic Preservation Board

Date: April 5, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: 57 E. First Street, Lower Level Council Chambers

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests
Wendy Mack-Allred, Vice Chair Jim Taylor Greg Marek Louise Swann Annalisa Alvrus, Ph.D. Laura Schaffer-Metcalf, Ed.D.	Janice Gennevois, Chair	John Wesley Kim Steadman	Vic Linhoff Donna Bengé Heather Scantlebury

1. Call meeting to order

Vice Chair Mack-Allred called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Approval of the March 1, 2016 minutes

First motion made by Board member Taylor to approve the minutes and seconded by Board member Schaffer-Metcalf.

Motion carried 6-0 (Chair Gennevois absent)

3. Review, discuss, and provide comments on proposed re-roofing of 137 N. Wilbur

Staff member Steadman provided background regarding this topic. The property owner has been having a leak and a roofer has recommended replacing the entire roof. Replacing with wood shingles is too expensive. Mr. Steadman reviewed the research he has done with the Secretary's Standards and SHPO.

After review and discussion it was the consensus of the Board that property owner try to match the historic shingles as nearly as possible with what they could afford, but it was understood that it would likely not be with wood shingles.

4. Hear presentation and discuss possible demolition of the brick house at 1131 E. University

Ms Heather Scantlebury spoke to the Board and informed them of what she had learned about the possibility that the home at 1131 E. University might be torn down to make way for new development. The property is owned by New Leaf and they have proposed a tax credit project on this property. It is not a recognized historic structure, but it is a unique brick house that should be considered for protection.

Board member Marek stated the house was built in 1937.

There was discussion among the Board members as to what could be done. Since the property is not listed on the local or national register there is not much that could be done at this time. Board member Marek suggested Board members could speak with members of New Leaf and their advisory board to encourage them to maintain the structure. It was also suggested that further research on the history of the building would be beneficial to see if it was something that should receive historic designation.

Ms. Scantlebury encouraged the Board to think about this type of situation as it may occur in the future and how steps could be taken to recognize endangered properties and flag them for protection.

Mr. Vic Linhoff commented that advocacy was the only option at this point, but encouraged finding out the history of the building and property before doing anything.

5. Review and make selections for the 2016 Historic Preservation Awards

The Board reviewed and discussed the nomination of Paul Chaisson. There were some questions regarding the information provided in the nomination. Staff will research the information and possibly follow up with the nominator to verify the information. The Board will consider this nomination at their retreat on April 16.

The Board reviewed the other nominations and had no questions or concerns.

First motion made by Board member Taylor to approve the nominations of Jim Britton for an Individual Lifetime Award and Linda Matthews for an Education and Outreach Award and second by Board member Schaffer-Metcalf.

Motion carried 6-0 (Chair Gennevois absent)

6. Plan for Board Retreat scheduled for April 16

Staff member John Wesley provided an overview of the retreat. It will include stops at the Sistine House, Park of the Canals, a tour of a Post-WWII neighborhood and then a discussion in the Lower Level Council Chambers. Lunch will be brown bag while at the Park. Discussion topics during the retreat will be a review of previous goals and their status, the work plan for the coming year, how to interact with Council, and action on the award nomination.

7. Update on ongoing items:

a. Downtown façade improvement, colonnade removal, and historic designation

Staff member Wesley commented that the proposed draft budget provided to Council does not include the funding for the façade improvement program.

b. Historic sign ordinance

Board member Marek stated he will have a draft for the subcommittee to look at soon. He hopes to have a draft for the Board to look at for the May meeting.

c. Historic Preservation Staff

Staff member Wesley commented that the proposed draft budget provided to Council includes \$15,000 for this position. The Board expressed some pleasure that the need for the position was receiving some recognition, but felt concern that it was not enough to get much accomplished. Board member Marek stated he had talked with the Mayor and Vice-Mayor and both were supportive of the funding. He encouraged other Board members to use the talking points that had been provided and contact their councilmember.

d. Westside Clark local historic district designation process

No update

e. Southwest corner of Mesa Drive and University

Staff member Wesley reported that Mr. McVay was working toward holding the public input sessions, but nothing was scheduled yet.

f. Possible purchase of 151 N. Wilbur

No update

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

Staff member Wesley provided the Board with an update regarding the Pioneer Park Train.

Wilbur Historic District property owners Jeff Nelson, 125 N. Pasadena, and Erin Peters, 130 N. Pasadena, introduced themselves to the Board and expressed their support for maintaining historic districts.

Vic Linhoff informed the Board that as part of the upcoming state historic preservation conference there will be free homeowners' expo and encourage the Board and staff to help inform the public about this. He also stated that he had taken a group on a tour of neon signs on Main Street and that the owner at Buckhorn Baths was there to turn the sign on for them. He informed the Board that on April 16 he will be taking the Eastmark leadership class on a walking tour of downtown Mesa and he also suggested Board members might want to read the book *Politics of Historic Districts* by Bill Schmickle.

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

Board member Marek asked about having historic district documents scanned and available on line. Staff member Wesley responded that these documents have been scanned and used to be available on the website but a change was made recently and they seem to be lost. He will check this out. Staff member Steadman explained the City's document scanning project to the Board and that we will soon be getting to the full range of Historic Preservation Office document to have them scanned. It will be a second step to have them available to the public, but progress is being made.

10. Adjournment

Vice chair Mack-Allred adjourned the meeting at 7:12 pm.

First Motion made by Board member Taylor and seconded by Board member Swann.
Motion carried 6-0 (Chair Gennevois absent)

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Municipal Building, 55 N. Center St., Mesa, Arizona 85201

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