



Historic Preservation Board

Date: September 6, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m.

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

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests
Laura Schaffer-Metcalf, Ed.D., Chair Janice Gennevois, Vice-Chair Annalisa Alvrus, Ph.D. Greg Marek Brandon Benzing Milagros Zingoni	Louise Swann	John Wesley	Vic Linoff Donna Bengé

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Schaffer-Metcalf called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the June 7, 2016 regular meeting minutes

First Motion made by Board member Zingoni to approve the minutes as amended and seconded by Board member Marek to approve the August 2 meeting minutes.

Motion carried 6-0 (Board member Swann absent)

3. Miscellaneous Items from the Audience

None.

4. Discussion locations for holding meetings in historic neighborhoods

Staff member Wesley provided some background and options for where meetings could be held for each of the existing historic districts. The Board discussed the need to hold such meetings in both existing districts and potential districts and agreed we should hold meetings for both. It was agreed we should hold one meeting this fall and two in the first part of next year. Two would focus on existing districts and one would focus on a potential district.

It was agreed that Mr. Wesley would try to secure the meeting room at Mesa Fire Station 201 at Mesa Dr. and 1st Street for the November meeting. At this meeting we will invite the residents and property owners in the Wilbur, Fraser, and Temple districts as well as the residents and property owners from the 2nd Avenue and Pasadena area. In addition to any regular meeting items, we would have a time to talk about the purpose and role of historic districts and do a question and answer session with residents. We will also have some kind of information available about each of the established districts.

5. Update on Draft Historic Landmark Sign Ordinance

Staff member Wesley provided the Board members with an update of what has transpired since the last meeting. He reported that there have been a couple of discussions with the City Attorney's Office and the Zoning Administrator regarding the ordinance and options for addressing this issue. The City Attorney and Zoning Administrator are currently exploring the

idea of a “Historic Sign Plan” similar to the current “Comprehensive Sign Plan” used for new signs. The staff involved understand this is an important issue and are working to find a solution. They are, however, still very busy with the overall sign code update and other issues.

Discussion ensued from the Board with regards to how to keep this project moving and trying to understand what the legal issues and concerns are. Vice-Chair Gennevois reminded the Board there were several Councilmembers who wanted to see this topic back to them before they left office. Board member Marek expressed his concerns with regards to why this should be considered a significant legal issue given that a property owner is requesting a designation, this is not sign regulation. He asked if we could have a person from the Attorney’s Office at the next meeting to further discuss this; the Board agreed they would like to have this discussion. Board member Marek also asked if it would possible to have a projected timeline for the Historic Sign Ordinance if it has to be done with the rest of the sign code.

6. Discuss and consider creating an opportunity to involve older students in historic preservation

Vice-chair Gennevois stated that one requirement for high school students to get into college is to do community service. Maybe they could help do things such as distributing flyers for the neighborhood Board meetings.

Board member Zingoni suggesting organizing some type of competition that would engage older students such as having to write a rap song or doing a video.

Chair Schaffer-Metcalf commented that to move forward with any of these ideas we would need more detail on how a program would be structured, what the objectives would be, etc. Board members Zingoni, Alvrus, and Benzing agreed to be an informal working group that would come up with ideas to bring back to the Board for further consideration.

7. Updates on ongoing items:

- a. Certificates of Appropriateness cases

Staff member Wesley stated we have received the resubmittal now for the question about the shingles on the property at 137 N. Wilbur.

In the packet information was distributed about a case that has come in at 719 N. Robson. The actual request seems to be appropriate – additions to the rear of the home. However, in a first look, we see that an addition has been made to the front of the home that is not appropriate. Staff will be investigating that to see what steps, if any, need to be taken.

- b. Downtown façade improvement, colonnade removal, and historic designation

Vic Linhof updated the Board on this item. A property owner and building have been identified to participate. Ron Peters is willing to provide the design work for the façade renovations. There is a contractor willing to remove a portion of the colonnade for free. DMA has \$15,000 pledged to assist with renovations. There is an upcoming meeting with Councilmember Glover to see about a match from the City.

- c. Westside Clark local historic district designation progress

Staff member Wesley informed the Board that he has had some recent communication from this group. They have sent letters again to out of town property owners seeking their support.

- d. Contractor for historic preservation services

Staff member Wesley informed the Board that everything is in place with the contract, we are just waiting on the background check to be completed to start the contractor.

e. Student writing contest

Chair Shaffer-Metcalf updated the Board on the contest and how she gets the word out. Board member Zingoni suggested working with the i.d.e.a. Museum as another means to get the word out and agreed to contact them. It was also suggested that we see if something could be placed on Channel 11.

f. Prepare for Second Friday Downtown event in November

The Board members reviewed the schedule and who could be at the event in November.

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

Vic Linoff addressed the Board and mentioned the following State has selected Kathryn Leonard as the new SHPO and the former Tempe City Architect Mark Vinson has recently completed a book on mid-century modern architecture in the East Valley.

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

Suggestions were made to have new city council members invited to attend a board meeting and to invite the new SHPO. For next month's meeting we will keep the items above and have a discussion about the November citizen meeting with particular discussion regarding the Do's and Don't's of preservation and how they are presented.

10. Adjournment

Chair Shaffer-Metcalf adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

First Motion made by Board member Benzing and seconded by Board member Zingoni. Motion carried 6-0 (Board member Swann absent)

Supporting data is available for public review in the Planning Division,
Municipal Building, 55 N. Center St., Mesa, Arizona 85201

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