

# Historic Preservation Board



## *Minutes*

**Location:** Lower Level Council Chambers – 57 E First Street

**Date:** December 4, 2018 **Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Greg Marek, Chair  
Brandon Benzing, Vice-Chair  
Milgros Zingoni  
Jeri Meeks  
Benjamin Ayers

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Laura Schaffer-Metcalf Ed.D.  
Janice Gennevois

**STAFF PRESENT:**

John Wesley  
Charlotte McDermott  
Rebecca Gorton  
Jeff McVay  
Jeff Robbins

**GUESTS:**

Vic Linoff

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Chair Marek called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes from the November 6, 2018 Board meeting.

First motion made by Board member Zingoni to approve the November 6, 2018 minutes and seconded by Board member Meeks.

Vote: 5-0 (Board members Schaffer-Metcalf and Gennevois, absent)  
AYES – Marek, Benzing, Zingoni, Meeks, and Ayers  
NAYS - None

3. Items from citizens present.\*

Vic Linoff invited the board to a special opening at the Arizona Museum of Natural History on December 7.

4. Hear and discuss an update on Phase I and Phase II of the downtown Façade Improvement project.

Jeff McVay, Manager of Downtown Transformation and Jeff Robbins, Management Assistant II, presented an update on the downtown Façade project. Mr. Robbins stated Phase I has begun and goal is to be completed before spring training begins. Board member Meeks inquired if they had received any complaints by the merchants. Jeff Robbins responded they spoke with the merchants and explained the cost of construction during this time came in lower than the bids received for work earlier in the year and the merchants were accepting of this.

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 4, 2018 HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING

Mr. Robbins updated the board on Phase II of the project. He explained the Neighborhood Outreach Department has some extra funding that was not spent on another project and they issued a Notice of Additional Funding (NOFO). Mr. Robbins stated they have submitted an application for the funding which would allow us to fund the design for 10 to 12 properties. They are also applying for more monies through the CDBG and SRP grants and are hoping to fund round 2. These funds would assist us to manage the projects for smaller property owners which may be new to the procedures of construction.

5. Hear and discuss an update on the proposed commercial use of the Serrine House property, a historic landmark located at 160 N. Center Street.

Jeff Robbins updated the board on proposed concept to incorporate a restaurant on the site of the Serrine House. Mr. Robbins stated this is a beautiful historic building and is open only 1 day a year with a rich history that should be celebrated. He explained one of the top requests from residents during Imagine Mesa was to have a "green living" facility in the downtown area. Mr. Robbins stated they put out an RFP and received two responses, one of which was in line with what they were looking for. The next step is to sit down and finalize the financing and moving forward with design and will present updates to this Board. Jeff McVay stated they have a long way to go before it goes before Council.

6. Hear and discuss a presentation from the Mesa Preservation Foundation regarding preservation of neon signs.

Vic Linoff, Mesa Preservation Foundation, provided a presentation of locations which are currently displaying neon signs. He provided ideas and opportunities for how Mesa can develop a museum to display local neon signs.

7. Discuss the essays received for the 2018-2019 Historic Preservation Student Writing Contest, including selection of winners.

The board determined each member will recommend their top three choices and discuss at the next meeting. Board member Zingoni will recuse herself as her son has submitted an essay.

8. Hear a presentation and discuss the use of Social Media in compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Charlotte McDermott, Assistant City Attorney, provided a presentation on the Open Meeting Law, particularly how it applies to social media.

9. Historic Preservation Officer's Updates.

(The items in the HPO's Updates are not for Board discussion and no Board action will be taken on the updated items.)

## MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 4, 2018 HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING

Planning Director John Wesley provided an update on the progress of the recruitment for the Historic Preservation Officer. Mr. Wesley stated approximately twelve applications have been forwarded to him to evaluate with interviews some time after the first of the year.

10. Hear reports from Board Members and staff on museums, exhibits, committees and/or events related to historic preservation.

Board member Meeks stated that on Nov 15 the Mesa Historical Museum moved to the Lehi Community and will be open to the public on February 8.

11. Future agenda items.

Chair Marek requested the top three writing contest entries be added.

The next meeting will be on January 3 at 6:00 pm.

12. Adjournment.

First motion made by Board member Meeks to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm and seconded by Board member Zingoni.

Vote: 5-0 (Board members Schaffer-Metcalfe and Gennevois, absent)

AYES – Marek, Benzing, Zingoni, Meeks, and Ayers

NAYS - None

\*Members of the audience may address the Board on any item. The Arizona Open Meeting Law (ARS § 38-431 et seq.) limits the Historic Preservation Board to discussing only those matters specifically listed on the agenda.

Any citizen wishing to speak on an agenda item should complete and turn in a blue card to City staff before that item is presented. When the Board considers the item, you will be called to the podium to provide your comments.

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