

*Minutes*

Mesa City Council Chambers – Lower level, 57 E 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Date: October 1, 2024 Time: 5:00 pm

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

James Babos, Chair  
Jocelyn Skogebo, Vice Chair  
Bruce Nelson  
BJ Parsons  
Ty Utton

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Jessica Sarkissian  
Courtney Mooney

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Matthew Kriegl  
Kelly Whittemore  
Kellie Rorex  
Mary Kopaskie-Brown  
Jeff McVay  
Anthony Rodriguez  
Bryce Albretsen  
Abraham Arnett  
Malloy Ress  
Dawn Dallman

**CITIZEN SPEAKERS:**

None

(\*Board members and staff participated in the meeting through the use of telephonic and audio conference equipment.)

**1. Call Meeting to Order.**

Chair Babos declared a quorum present. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

**2. Approval of the minutes from the September 3, 2024 Historic Preservation Board meeting.**

It was motioned by Boardmember Utton, seconded by Boardmember Parsons, that the minutes from the September 3, 2024 Historic Preservation meeting be approved.

**Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:**

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2024 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING

**AYES – Babos-Skojeko-Nelson-Parsons-Utton**

**NAYS - None**

**EXCUSED – Sarkissian-Mooney**

**ABSENT – None**

**3. Discussion Items.**

**3-a. Discuss the May 2025 Historic Preservation Month Essay and Visual Arts contest and potential essay and visual arts topics.**

**Suggested Potential Topics/Event Ideas:**

- Idea: Display winning entries at the Mesa Historical Museum with a reception
- Idea: Increase participation with prizes like pizza days
- Idea: Encourage students to visit Mesa Historical Museum for ideas.
- Idea: Suggest a class activity to create murals
- Idea: Include project ideas and share a link to the HP Handbook in the brochure to encourage teacher involvement and class participation
- Idea: Reach out to business to provide winning class with an incentive.
- Topic: If I could save one Historic Site in Mesa it would be . . .
- Topic: Stories about Mesa's oldest families or original tribes who lived in Mesa.
- Topic: Go to the Mesa Historical Museum and write about an item/photo and describe its significance
- Topic: Select 4 – 6 street names and describe their historical significance.
- Topic: Redesign a Historic Sign
- Topic: Design a new façade for a building downtown
- Topic: Describe architectural styles
- Topic: Select a historical figure and describe how they contributed to the development of Mesa
- Topic: Create a narrated video of a historic place or building and describe why it is historic
- Topic: Have students present whatever they think would be significant for historic preservation

Staff will review and narrow down the list of potential topics so outreach can begin.

Chair Babos expressed interest in reinstating Historic Preservation Awards for buildings/structures/places in the future. He suggested adding this item as a discussion topic at the upcoming retreat.

**3-b. Hear an update regarding the Downtown Façade Improvement Project.**

## MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2024 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING

### **Summary:**

**Jeff McVay, Manager of Downtown Transformation, Anthony Rodriguez, Downtown Transformation Project Manager, and Bryce Albretsen, Engineering St. Civil Engineer displayed a PowerPoint presentation highlighting details of four specific project locations. (see attachment 1)**

In response to a question from Chair Babos, Jeff McVay stated there is an encroachment agreement that must be complied with but it does allow patios in the right of way.

Following-up, the Board discussed the inclusion of shade structures and the placement of columns to support them. Chair Babos expressed satisfaction with the designs and the creative solutions for providing shade without encroaching the right of way.

Jeff McVay also mentioned the city's tree installation project to provide additional shade on Main Street.

#### **4. Hear reports from Board Members of current events and educational topics related to historic preservation.\*\***

Chair Babos shared the Vintage Phoenix Facebook page has a link to SavingsPlaces.org put out by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He wondered if there may an opportunity to submit the Buckhorn Bath's for consideration.

#### **5. Items from citizens present.\*\***

No citizens wish to speak.

#### **6. Historic Preservation Officer's Updates.\***

Mr. Kriegl shared the following items with the Board:

- The upcoming biannual Historic Preservation Community Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at The Studios @ Mesa City Center at 6 pm. He reminded the Board although they may attend, this is not a Board meeting and is intended for owners of historic properties.
- Downtown Colonnade and Façade presentations will take place in the following months until the end of the year. He noted this same batch of projects will be presented to the Mesa Design Review Board next week and will continue in a similar pattern until the end of the year as well.

#### **7. Adjournment.**

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2024 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING

It was motioned by Boardmember Nelson, seconded by Boardmember Utton, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm.

**Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:**

**AYES – Babos-Skogebo-Nelson-Parsons-Utton-**

**NAYS - None**

**EXCUSED – Sarkissian-Mooney**

**ABSENT – None**

Respectfully submitted,

*Matthew Kriegl*

Matthew Kriegl  
Historic Preservation Officer

**\* These items are for Board discussion only – no Board action will be taken on the items.**

**\*\* These items are not for Board discussion and no Board action will be taken at this meeting.**

**\*\*\* 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. 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.**

A recording of the meeting is available upon request. Please contact the Planning Department with questions, 480-644-2385.