

Minutes

Mesa City Council Chambers – Lower level, 57 E 1st Street
Date: February 4, 2025 Time: 5:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Babos, Chair
Jocelyn Skogebo, Vice Chair
Bruce Nelson
BJ Parsons
Ty Utton*
Jessica Sarkissian
Courtney Mooney

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT:

Matthew Kriegl
Charlotte McDermott
Kellie Rorex
Dawn Dallman

CITIZEN SPEAKERS:

Arianna Urban
Vic Linoff

(*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 December 3, 2024, Historic Preservation Board meeting and the January 11, 2025, Historic Preservation Board Retreat meeting

It was motioned by Boardmember Nelson, seconded by Vice Chair Skogebo, that the minutes from December 3, 2024 and January 11, 2025 Historic Preservation meetings be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Babos-Skogebo-Nelson-Parsons-Utton- Sarkissian-Mooney

NAYS - None

EXCUSED – None

ABSENT – None

3. Discussion Items.

- 3-a. Hear an update on the 2025 Historic Preservation Board Goals including the goals discussed at the 2025 Board Retreat.**

Summary:

Matt Kriegl, Historic Preservation Officer, displayed a PowerPoint presentation detailing three main goals derived from the 2025 Board Retreat. (see attachment 1)

Mr. Kriegl explained that staff summarized the topics discussed at the retreat into three main goals: Cultural Histories, the Supplemental List, and Historic Preservation Recognition. He mentioned all three goals will need to be Board driven.

Chair Babos gave kudos to staff. He thought it was great that staff had already started implementing things from the conversations had at the retreat.

- 3-b. Hear an update on the open meeting law, including board members attending other community meetings and events.**

Summary:

Charlotte McDermott, Assistant City Attorney III, advised the Board regarding attending other public meetings and the rules around participating at those meetings. She cautioned Board members to represent their personal views and not the views of the entire Board when speaking at other meetings. Updates on other meetings attended may be provided to the Board under the "Reports from Board Members" section on the agenda.

Mr. Kriegl explained that he attends other public meetings. He will update the Board about those meetings as needed under the "Historic Preservation Officer's Update" section on the agenda. If he identifies an item of greater importance, he will contact the Chair so they can discuss whether an item should be listed as its own agenda item so the Board could have greater discussion on that item.

- 3-c. Presentation on Historic Preservation outreach in other Arizona Certified Local Government municipalities.**

Summary:

Arianna Urban, Certified Local Government Planner at the State Historic Preservation Office, shared her ideas for Historic Preservation outreach and community engagement. She discussed examples from other cities, such as Phoenix and Glendale, highlighting their successful outreach programs. She stated the SHPO staff is willing to assist with research, connections, etc.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 4, 2025 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING

Ms. Urban stated she will be presenting at the Arizona Historic Preservation Conference which will be held in Phoenix this year at the Cronkite Campus on ASU. The date of the conference is May 14, 2025 through May 17, 2025. SHPO has sponsorships available to help Board members and city staff attend the conference as long as they attend the CLG training session offered on May 14, 2025.

Ms. Urban mentioned February 21, 2025 is the current due date for award nominations. The Board discussed the value in nominating Mesa Historic Preservation projects or local Preservationists for award and recognition.

Chair Babos requested Arianna send a list of her outreach ideas to staff to be shared with the Board.

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

Boardmember Sarkissian shared details about an upcoming Mesa Leadership Fundraiser event to be held at 6 pm this Saturday, February 8th at The Post. She also mentioned Tom Ellsworth, Director of Planning and Development for Maricopa County, will be a guest on her podcast. The episode is expected to drop this Friday, February 7, 2025.

Chair Babos recommended the Facebook page "If You Grew Up in Mesa AZ" as it shows many historic items.

5. Items from citizens present.**

No citizens wished to speak.

6. Historic Preservation Officer's Updates.*

Mr. Kriegl shared the following items with the Board:

- He has attended some behind the scenes tours and he agrees with Ms. Urban that people are very interested in these tours.
- Both he and Kellie Rorex are working with the City of Phoenix and will be attending the upcoming state conference to participate in an education panel as they will be sharing information regarding the Annual Essay & Art Contest.
- He thanked the Board for attending the recent retreat. He felt it was successful and included great discussion on historic preservation in Mesa.
- As previously requested by the Board, he provided an update on the Essay & Art Contest. We have currently received two submissions. Based on previous years it is common for us to receive entries right up until the deadline. The submission deadline is March 10, 2025.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 4, 2025 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING

- He acknowledged this will be Boardmember Mooney's last board meeting as she has moved out of Mesa. He thanked her for her time and hopes she will continue enhancing Mesa's historic preservation program through her volunteer efforts.
- In response to a question from Chair Babos, Mr. Kriegl stated staff is working with SHPO and the Mesa Small Business Group to get the architect's office on McKellips determined as eligible. The next steps will be in the owner's court based on what direction he wants to pursue. The owner is interested in having the building recognized. Mr. Kriegl offered to update the Board again as he is made aware of more details.

7. Adjournment.

It was motioned by Boardmember Sarkissian, seconded by Boardmember Parsons, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 pm.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Babos-Skogebo-Nelson-Parsons-Utton-Sarkissian-Mooney

NAYS - None

EXCUSED – None

ABSENT – None

Respectfully submitted,



James Babos
Historic Preservation Board Chair

* 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.

Historic Preservation Board

City of Mesa



Tuesday, February 04, 2025

Agenda Item: 3-a

HP Board 2025 Goals

1) CULTURAL HISTORIES

- Work with the library (or other entities) to collect and document cultural histories (orally or through written and digital means) to ensure that the cultural stories of Mesa can also be preserved
- Series of StoryMaps
- Historic photos on banners downtown
- Speaker series at Mesa Public Schools
- Connect with other HPBs and SHPO to celebrate HP in AZ

2) SUPPLEMENTAL LIST

- A list to help bring awareness to undesignated historical buildings, places, and districts throughout Mesa
- Board member driven
- Allows the Board and public to recognize and appreciate Mesa's cultural past
- No regulatory restrictions to property owners
- Invite other Boards or city staff to discuss their Supplemental Lists

2) SUPPLEMENTAL LIST (TWO DIRECTIONS)

- Cultural Direction – Include properties and sites that have cultural value or structures of importance that may or may no longer be extant; more open to interpretation and less tied to the physical attributes of the building(s) or structure(s) or place(s).
- Traditional Direction – Historic structures exhibiting both significance and integrity as typically interpreted; standing historic buildings or structures that embody more “traditional” historical characteristics.

3) HISTORIC PRESERVATION RECOGNITION

- Identify a building or person to be recognized or highlighted at Board meetings (possibly quarterly)
- Board member driven
- Could help spread awareness of overall Historic Preservation and historic preservation within the City
- Social Media Presence
- City Council Resolution

QUESTIONS / DISCUSSION



Historic Preservation Board

City of Mesa



Tuesday, February 04, 2025