
Minutes

Virtual Platform
57 E 1st St

Date: October 5, 2021 Time: 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Benzing, Chair*
Jim Babos, Vice-Chair
Barbara Bingham
Bruce Nelson
Jocelyn Skogebo

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Arianna Urban
Dr. Nana Appiah
Charlotte McDermott*

GUESTS:

Vic Linoff	Kristen Matthias
Greg Marek	Diana Johnson
Rosemary McMasters	Lakota Group*

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

1. Call meeting to order.

Vice-Chair Babos

I'd like to call to order the October 5, 2021 meeting of the city of Mesa Historic Preservation Board.

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.

Vice-Chair Babos

First item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes from the September 7th meeting. Does anyone have any comments about the minutes? If not, do we have a motion to approve them?

Boardmember Bingham

I will make a motion.

Boardmember Nelson

I'll second.

AYES: Benzing-Babos-Bingham-Nelson-Skogebo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

3. Items from citizens present.

Vic Linoff

Well, good evening, welcome. Congratulations to Bruce. It should have happened a long time ago. Arianna and I were communicating earlier, there really needs to be more diversity on the Board because of the diverse history that is seen in the city. Bruce joining the Board is the first step. Last month, I told you about our neon signs. That's what the Mesa Preservation Foundation is centrally working on. We did have a meeting last month and narrowed choices down to three of a pretty wide inventory. Right now, our architects are working on some renderings that will put into context what neon would look like in those various locations. From there, we can start approaching the city and get their reaction. As I told you before, it's really impractical for us to begin restoring signs before we have a place to put them because once they're done, you got to get them up. Otherwise, they just start to deteriorate all over again. Several of them will go up fairly easily. I hoped that by the time we got to this month we would have those renderings. When we do, we'll be happy to share them and get your thoughts. Because once they go up that's it.

Also, I get regular questions about the Buckhorn Baths. As you know the Buckhorn was sold to a new owner that pledges to restore it. We've never had a one-on-one or face-to-face meeting. We are going to try to get with the architectural representative Tim Boyle, who speaks really on behalf of the owner. To get some input into what they're thinking and what their timeline is going to look like moving forward. I'd also suggest the Board provide an invitation to show the engagement I think that you want to have in this process of restoration.

4. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on proposed text amendments to Chapters 23 and 74 of Title 11 of the Mesa City Code, relating to historic preservation.

Arianna Urban

We have Nick and Richard. If you want to introduce yourself briefly and then go ahead into your presentation.

Nick Kalogeresis

My name is Nick Kalogeresis. I am an Associate Principal with Lakota Group. Last month, we presented the draft Design Guidelines. Tonight, I have my colleague Richard Friedman, from Neil and Leroy, who partnered with us on this project to review your historic preservation code and make some suggestions for future revisions. I will turn it over to Richard. He'll go through the presentation.

Richard Friedman

Thank you, Nick. I've got a short slide presentation to give you an idea of our assignment and what we've done to produce some suggested changes to the code as it relates to historic preservation. Of course, these are suggestions, and these are a draft. They are for your consideration and then later for the vote of the City Council before they get passed. They're going to be vetted, even more than they already have been. I'd like to start by saying this is going to be a very high level, in other

words, not too close to the earth review of what we've done to make suggestions to the ordinance. I'm going to do it in very broad strokes without getting into too much legal detail about it.

We started with what are the goals. What do we want to accomplish when we looked at the code? What were our instructions? And what did we bring to review the preservation provisions of the code. We had at least these three goals. One was to bring the code up to more modern standards. That's not to say it wasn't. Your code is perfectly good and perfectly functional. But since the origination of the code, some of the standards and some of the thinking about historic preservation, has changed quite a bit. I'm going to go into that in a later slide. One thing we were instructed to do is to make sure that the code was certain with respect to the review of new construction in the historic overlay district. We looked at them from that point of view, and there weren't a lot of changes necessary in that regard. I think the most important thing that we did do is, or at least made these changes and suggest them to you, was to bring the standards and the characteristics of historic designation, whether they're districts or individual landmarks, into the thinking that has been going on in this area for a number of years. To make these selections of historic resources to be more inclusive, to bring in non-traditional kinds of things. I'm going to talk a little bit about what I mean by non-traditional. I think the most important thing that we were asked to do, the most important thing that we did do, was to think about how we can make the historic resources and the recognition and protection of historic resources much more inclusive.

I looked at the expressed purposes of the historic preservation resource program of the city of Mesa. They did express themselves in the traditional standards of recognizing the form and character of the city of Mesa, preserve its unique cultural heritage, enhanced property values, stabilize neighborhoods, and preserve the diverse cultural and architectural styles. I didn't want to see that change at all. But I did add things I think the citizens of Mesa are concerned about. That is to express as a goal making sure that the due process is always foremost. In other words, expressing clearly what people's property rights are, and making sure that those property rights are respected. Another goal that I wanted to add to all the ones that I just mentioned, was making it a goal that citizens are able to both see what's going on and participate in the process. The goal of expressing transparency. Those are just simply goals added to the other goals that the code expresses.

As presently expressed, some of the characteristics and the standards for designating districts and individual landmarks followed those of the State Historic Preservation Office or follow those of the National Register. There's nothing wrong with those. But I think that Mesa has its own unique culture and its own unique heritage and its own unique resources. I've suggested adding criteria that recognize culture as well as architecture. Allowing what I would call non-traditional, with traditional being architectural importance or historic importance, but adding cultural importance. Things that we may not think of as traditional landmarks being a building a church, a library, a home, or a neighborhood. Things that are recognized parts of the community. Structures or

buildings that might not fit the traditional definition of a historic landmark when thinking about it, but are nevertheless important for the community. Things that give recognition to a segment of the community, for example, or that would lend recognition to the community as a whole, and things that at least when I was in school, were not considered historic landmarks. One other thing that we've added in addition to the standards, we've set out a list of examples The kinds of structures or monuments that would be included, and that could be included as designated landmarks or within districts other than or in addition to traditional buildings that we think of.

One suggestion we've made, and we'd like you to consider, is to allow the designation of interiors. It's fairly common, throughout the country, for interiors of buildings, if they're significant, if their a historic resource, to be protected and to be recognized. They add importance. They give a sense of place. They round out a historic resource. Currently in Mesa interiors cannot be part of a historic district, or part of a historical landmark. What we're suggesting is that we now for the first time, allow interiors to be designated but with some limitations. In order to be designated to be protected as a historic resource, the interior must come with the approval of the property owner. Either suggested by the property owner or by a voluntary action of the property owner. I think you're going to get many of these. There are many kinds of institutions that are very proud and rightly so, of their interiors. These could be churches, they could be clubs, they could be institutional buildings, schools, a library. I've got a list of potential buildings that would have interiors worthy of designation. They could come from privately owned buildings, and they're also likely to come a great deal from civic buildings owned by the public, city, county, or other governmental entities. What we've also included in this suggestion is another limitation that says that if an interior is designated as a historic resource, it will not become open to the public. If it's in a private building, it will remain private. So, all of the owner's privacy is protected, whether the building is a civic building, or one that's owned by a private entity. Whether it's a church or private theater, for example, or other private entity. That's one suggestion we've made. We hope that you'll find that acceptable. It's there for you to consider. At least for Mesa, it seems to be a large step forward and I hope that you'll be able to recommend that.

Arianna Urban

Mr. Friedman, if I could just interrupt you for one minute. I want to clarify something about the interiors that we're proposing to speak to in the new text amendments. Currently, interiors are not excluded from designation in historic overlays, but they are not explicitly addressed in the current ordinance. So that's something we proposed to explicitly address and incorporate in the new ordinance rather than leaving it vague, as it is now.

Richard Friedman

As I understand it Arianna, as of now, the interiors have not been designated either an HD or HL overlays there.

Arianna Urban

They're done on a on a landmark-by-landmark basis. We do have at least one landmark that I can think of that does have some of its interior features designated. But we don't currently have any private residential properties with designated interiors.

Richard Friedman

Well good so this will give an opportunity to do that. Especially for owners who seek the recognition of the designation.

As I'm coming as a stranger to Mesa and looking at the code, I wasn't sure of the status of the Heritage neighborhoods. I looked at the code as a lawyer, not knowing what your practices were, so I added a few provisions that clarify what is a Heritage neighborhood. So that person looking at the code would understand that it was a neighborhood that has recognition. It has historic or cultural importance, yet, it did not have the same protections as an HD or HL Overlay District. Therefore, a Certificate of Appropriateness would not be required for changes in a Heritage neighborhood. One further thing that I wanted to make sure was in the code, we've expanded a lot of energy in proposing guidelines, so I wanted to make sure the code pointed out the guidelines were subject to being followed so I made one or two changes. Again, these are lawyer changes, to make sure that the guidelines are part of the code. That they be recognized as what they are to guide Certificates of Appropriateness or guide owners when they consider changes to their historic properties. One other change that wasn't clear to me is that the full historic property was subject to a Certificate of Appropriateness. This is one that will have to be handled on a case-by-case basis, but I wanted to make sure that the Historic Preservation Board did have the authority to consider Certificates of Appropriateness. Irrespective of whether the proposed changes could be viewed from the public way or not viewed from the public way. So that is a proposed change. To make 100% of the property subject to a Certificate of Appropriateness. We were asked, in addition, to look at the provisions relating to new construction. We've added a 30-day provision allowing the Historic Preservation Board to look at new construction within HD Overlay Districts. Again, we want to make sure that it's understood that Heritage neighborhoods are recognized but don't have the same restrictions and protections of HD Overlay Districts.

Arianna Urban

Thank you, Mr. Friedman. If I could just clarify one of the points. Certificates of Appropriateness are currently required for all construction, whether it is visible or not from the right of way. That's our current operating procedures. The new part that we're suggesting is that we give a 30-day review time for brand new construction in historic districts because it is such a significant thing to build a brand new building in a historic context. We're allowing for more thorough review time and then possibly exploring the idea of having the Historic Preservation Board be able to weigh in on those new construction proposals. So that's the revisions we're looking at making to Certificates of Appropriateness and we will still do some of them administratively.

Richard Friedman

Okay. I want to say a big thank you to Arianna and Nana Appiah for the guidance they've given us. They've told us the customs and goals for the city of Mesa. They've guided our view of the code and we're very grateful for their knowledge and suggestions they've given us. I also want to thank the city of Mesa for this assignment. I'm not sure I would have had the opportunity, or the incentive, to visit your city and to visit your historic districts. I'm grateful for being able to do that and being introduced to the wonderful city that Mesa is. Thanks very much.

Nana Appiah

Chair, Boardmembers, I want to add for your information, before you start a discussion, this is not a final proposal. As you will remember, there was a stakeholder conversation for input with the majority of you. They also met with City Council, other stakeholders, and key members of the community. They've been able to put together a draft. We are going to be circulating the draft. We are going to send it to you individually. We are not making a final recommendation on this. The reason why we're having this discussion is because of Covid and everything that happened. We weren't really able to have meetings and things were delayed. We want to keep the momentum going now that we are working with them to release a draft. We wanted to make sure we had last month's discussion on the Design Guidelines, to start a conversation, so we could get the ball rolling. This is really just a presentation. We are going to be giving you the actual text amendment, which will have all the detailed information. We will be seeking input from you. We will come back for any recommendations or changes that you may have. When we get to the other part of the agenda, we'll talk about all the neighborhood meetings that we're going to be scheduling. The neighbors will have the opportunity to review the documents as well and provide us input. I think it's good to know this information as you get into your conversation. Thanks.

Vice-Chair Babos

I'd like to thank the Lakota Group for all their work. They've obviously put in a lot of time and effort and it's turning out very, very well. Just a couple of brief comments from me. I think including the interiors as a specific line item is a great idea. Just for clarification, where it said not made open to the public, I'm assuming that's the owner's option. They can open it if they want.

Arianna Urban

Yes, Vice-Chair Babos and members of the Board. It won't be compulsory, by any means. In some jurisdictions that is part of the provisions, in other parts of the country, but that won't be the case here.

Vice-Chair Babos

I very much like the fact that this Board may be able to review new construction. Again, clarification, is the 30-day time limit calendar days or workdays?

Nana Appiah

It's always calendar days.

Vice-Chair Babos

Is that enough time to allow for the Board to review it if they submit it on a Monday night before the Board meeting?

Nana Appiah

My recollection is the 30 days is for us to review and bring it to the Board. It's just the initial review because right now, for new construction, they all fall under a Certificate of Appropriateness which I think is 10 days for us to review. We really believe, for new construction at least, we will prefer to have some input from the Board and also make it a bit visible because there's been a few new constructions that have gone into some of the historic districts that the neighbors were not even aware because it was not visible. We will be working through this because we want to make sure that it's within your function. That you have the authority to be doing that because, at the end of the day, you are the appeal Board if somebody appeals any decision of the Historic Preservation Office. We've been talking as this issue has come up and we've been looking at, for example, the processes of the Design Review Board. The Design Review Board, they are not a final approving authority on designs except when it's City buildings, makes recommendations to me as the Planning Director. But in certain capacities, we do take projects to them to review and give us input. That's one of the things we are trying to explore. If we make it a requirement to come to the Board for new construction, kind of a work session to get input from the Board, it also will put it out there in the public for those who are interested to see. Then you can make a recommendation to us. We are exploring and those are the things that we'll be seeking your input on. As we get the text amendments, we'll be seeking input from various stakeholders and the community as well. Sometimes we may think it's straightforward, but you get a competing interest from property owners who may not want to go through that process or what the Board may want. So, we will put it out there and at the end of the day get a recommendation from you, which will go to P&Z and City Council. Council will have the ultimate decision on what they want to do.

Vice-Chair Babos

The last thing I wanted to mention was the section on cultural importance. I think that's really huge. I didn't know very much about the districts in Mesa. The Washington Escobedo district is obviously very important historically, but the buildings aren't there. Looking at that, and realizing how important it is, I'm sure there's other buildings or areas in the city with that same background and being able to use the historic code to save it, salvage it, recognize it, I think is a great feature to have.

Arianna Urban

Vice-Chair Babos, members of the Board, that's one thing we certainly recognized that needed modernization in our ordinance was the sense of inclusivity. Regardless of the specific architectural

features and integrity of any specific building, we want to recognize the significance of it regardless. I'm glad you picked up on that. That's great.

Chair Benzing

I've been on the Board for close to five years now. One of the things when we were kind of a skeleton crew Historic Preservation Program in Mesa back when I started, was the need for more time for dialogue, for new projects, demolition, and all that. The idea that we play a huge role in the community as educators is the biggest role given our property rights. How do you feel that the new amendments, as a broad stroke, compares to cities of similar sizes, with similar historical resources? Do you think we're getting close to those timelines and timeframes to have that dialogue? That's the time needed for that dialogue to make informative decisions.

Arianna Urban

Brandon, would you like to direct the question to the Lakota folks?

Chair Benzing

Yeah, it's just looking at other zoning ordinances in similar size cities with historical significance the main part of our historical resources are going to be World War Two and around that timeframe. We have stuff that's older, obviously, as you've seen. The meat is going to start coming up in our city here pretty quickly. Is our ordinance comparable to other cities that are redoing there's at this time, the items that you're proposing?

Richard Friedman

I'm not sure if you're addressing that to me, but I would say that was the intention.

Chair Benzing

Okay.

Richard Friedman

I wish more cities were as interested in updating, particularly the standards, with respect to inclusivity. Certainly, that was the objective, and it gives the Historic Preservation Board a lot of flexibility and a lot of leeway to expand the recognition of what's very important to the community. Not limited to the traditional master builder, or master architect, or identification with a historic personage. Those are still important, they're still in there, but today some communities have not had the recognition that they deserve. Possibly because they haven't had the mass architectural or important historic resource. But nevertheless, in these communities, there are monuments, there are structures, there are groups of buildings that deserve importance. Hopefully these, when the ordinance gets vetted and passed, will now be much more available and more recognized. It's not to say that in the former definition or the existing definitions, you couldn't shoehorn something in. But this will give express recognition to these cultural resources that communities around the country are recognizing.

Chair Benzing

Some of the more traditional resources such as buildings, parks, and landscapes have been protected previously, so I guess the question is less on the amendments to the current ordinance, but more our local property rights. They hold us back from being comparable to contemporary cities across the country. Are we in a good standing with how everybody else is running their zoning ordinance for historic preservation? I know that's a bigger topic.

Richard Friedman

This was a topic of a lot of discussion with Arianna and Nana. We understand the local concerns in the community of Mesa. In most, especially in larger communities like yours, most historic preservation ordinances around the country do have mandatory designations. In other words, a property may be designated in other communities, even if the property owner objects. This has not changed in Mesa. This is going to be entirely voluntary. Also, no other states or most other states don't have a proposition 207. That is a factor that always needs to be kept in mind.

Boardmember Nelson

I have a couple of comments and questions. We talked about wherever a new structure is going in recognizing what was there before through some kind of signage, structure, or something. If it could be more explicit in that language, I think it would be kind of cool.

The other thing is, we did not mention indigenous folks and consideration for what transpired before anyone was here. I think that's really important that you recognize that, because a lot of times you don't know, because people haven't been around. But there are folks that do remember. I really think the Mesa Historical Museum needs to be part of that because they have an archaeologist and that's what they do. You need to consider that. Everybody really loves their history, but you need to like all history that existed before people came to Mesa. They really pride themselves. When you go and look at the yearbooks from like 1885 and 1890, it always amuses me they're doing all these Native American things. I think those folks didn't want the haircut. They didn't come to school to get a haircut. That's not why we're there. But no one ever thinks about that. They just think, oh look, we've included them. Look, we got photographs of them. I'm from that and I know they weren't happy about that. So that's something we need to consider.

The other thing, the Heritage designation, it doesn't sound like it allows a lot of protection. If somebody else decides to do that, in terms of buildings, a great example in Washington Escobedo right there on Center Street there's an artist. I've met him there and he creates art, incredible art. He has a space and then he went down the street next to a church and created another space. He didn't give any consideration as to what took place there. That's where the canal was. That's where people would walk from the canal and baptize people in that canal. That's where people swam in the canal when they couldn't swim in Rendezvous Park because they wouldn't let them. That's where all the trash from further east, the white community that lived there put their trash in and let it roll down there through that community. When he created his building, he didn't give that

any kind of consideration whatsoever. He just did what he wanted to do. I think that's important. We talk about heritage. We talk about history. But it seems like we forget, so how is that going to strengthen community for the next one that wants to create a Heritage? How is it going to strengthen them from that? I know the city owns a lot of property in Washington-Escobedo. If someone comes in and decides they want to build some structure that seems completely out of place, it seems like there's no protection there. How can we strengthen this to help the future? I mean, my neighborhood was the first to get it, but there may be others. Something to think about. In the new developments coming in people want to be in the downtown, that's part of the downtown. They have great ideas. Another example, right there at Southern and University, the lawyer's office had moved in there. I don't know the name of the lawyers. I wasn't here when they did that. Well, that was where Dr. Austin's office was. Willie Mays and Hank Aaron stayed there because they couldn't stay in the hotels. Ernie Banks talks about it. My brother talks about it. Right there, that guy built that building and he didn't care what happened in the past. He just wanted to build this nice building. I'm a lawyer, this is what I want. That seems to happen a lot in disadvantaged neighborhood over and over and over again. Same example with Okemah, when they decided they wanted to make the 10 freeway they just got those people out of there. They just took it. I'm glad we're having this discussion, but we need something with a little more bite because it's important to do that. We talk about the history so let's invest in it. We got to get them to give back somehow when you come into this community. They're not just here to make a nice place, they're here to make money. They see opportunity. There's no reason why they shouldn't give some of that back. That's kind of my perspective on it.

Arianna Urban

If I may, Vice-Chair Babos and Boardmember Nelson, I you know the Washington-Escobedo neighborhood is sort of the blueprint for the Heritage neighborhood. If we need to shift the parameters of the Heritage neighborhood to have more teeth than that's something we'd certainly be interested in exploring. Absolutely.

Boardmember Nelson

Great. Let's look into it. We still have time. we're early in the chartering. I can bring about 25 people down and they can make some statements if that would help you.

Chair Benzing

I think just to add to Boardmember Nelson, the Governor's Award for the Washington-Escobedo neighborhood is one of those things that we talked about as far as education of community. That being the biggest component. Our best teeth that we have in the city of Mesa, given all our laws about property rights is the education component. That's a huge win for us as a city and for the neighborhood. I agree, as far as Heritage neighborhood, any way we can give them a little more protection would be hugely important.

Vice-Chair Babos

I have a comment for Boardmember Nelson also. I certainly understand where you're coming from. I think the dichotomy is it's a Heritage District rather than historic district because the buildings aren't there. I realize there should be some way to recognize what went on before. But I wouldn't want to force people's hands into making something historic just for the sake of where it is. Because it's not a historic district, it's a Heritage District. I understand where you're coming from. In my mind, I'm having a hard time trying to figure out how we would get people to recognize what happened in the past, above and beyond some silly plaque somewhere.

Boardmember Nelson

That was one of the things when we applied. We were told that we could not apply for that. But I don't know that we got all the correct information at the time, because there are plenty of buildings there that connect to the historical nature. Miss Johnson, the first African American female Principal, her house is still there. The first African American Veterinarian, his house is still there. Jerry Boyd, the first African American Councilmember, his house is still there. The land where the segregated school was is still there. There are a lot of places that are still there. When we applied, I don't think we understood it enough to say we can do that. I was speaking to Vic, I'm going to put him on the spot here, and he said you know what, actually, it could have happened. We didn't know how to go about it or didn't understand it. It's highly significant when you think about Mesa, that's why we have the Non-Discrimination Ordinance, because it happens. It's highly significant to those folks from there. I hear what you're saying. I'm just saying we need to figure it out for an artist, and that's what I don't understand, he's an artist. He came to the community, and artists are usually pretty aware, and he just didn't care. The significance of that canal, try to take yourself back, if you're a kid, eight, nine years old, you try to go to the swimming pool, but they won't let you in, so you go to the canal. That very difficult to understand. That became a place where you did things, you hung out there, you had barbecues, that was it because you couldn't go to the park until the Escobedo pool got built. So yes, I understand but let's figure it out how we make that work. New people are going to come into that area, they're going to see a big lot, and they're going to go, hey, I want to do four stories. Wait a minute, there's some high significance. There are five black churches in that community. Five churches that are not all black anymore, they've rented them out. Five of them. I always laughed, I thought why do we need five churches? We got like, 200 people that live here. What's going on man. The pastor always said that way you have no reason not to go to church. I hear what you're saying but I think there's a way to make it work in the future. Especially if someone else tries to have a Heritage neighborhood, well, it's got some bite. It's got some teeth to it. So that's all I will say.

Arianna Urban

Vice-Chair Babos and Boardmember Nelson, I want to clarify the perimeters of the Heritage District. The purpose of it is not because the buildings aren't there. It has to do with the level of integrity, in terms of, does this building look exactly the way it did when it was built? Those changes over time are why I think the Heritage District was conceived.

Vice-Chair Babos

Any other comments on the presentation?

Boardmember Bingham

I just wanted to thank the Lakota Group, Arianna, and Nana also. I think all the recommendations are a plus. Just the conversation that it's generated tonight shows that we're moving in the right direction.

Arianna Urban

Vice-Chair Babos, members of the Board, we have one comment card request from Greg Marek. If you could just state your name and address.

Greg Marek

Thank you. My name is Greg Marek. Address is 3016 Northridge Crest #102 in Mesa. I want to speak specifically to item number four that you've been talking about. As some of you know, I'm not sure if the Lakota Group knows, but I was a Historic Preservation Officer from 1996 to 2005. I also served on the Historic Preservation Board. It's a little different being on this side of the desk, but it's okay. The ordinance itself was established in 1994 or so. To get it passed through City Council really required a lot of compromises. We have not touched the ordinance since 1994. We're talking a 20th century ordinance and we're in the 21st century. I was on the Board when we got the grant to do this project. I guess they must have done some research and it sounds like they're pretty far along in developing the text. One of the things we wanted to look at specifically, and I hear it coming up in some of your questions, was what are the best practices? We have to think strategically because as we bring this through the process and you start going to the Planning & Zoning Board, which I believe it has to go through them because we're looking at an ordinance amendment at City Council, they have no background. I think it's critically important that some sort of report, or analysis in a written format or visual, is presented that outlines what are the best practices. What are other cities doing? Because consistently, it seems like, our elected officials are always reluctant if they think they're the first ones out there doing something. But if there are other cities doing it, they feel more comfortable doing it. I think if we just present it as we're kind of doing in here, I don't think they're going to have that level of comfort, unless they see some sort of analysis. It sounds like the consultant has been reviewing other ordinances. I'd like to know what some of those have done.

I was just jotting down some notes. I'll try to be coherent as I go through. I was going to address this last, but since we're talking about the Heritage neighborhoods, we have to understand when those were created it was created by an acting Historic Preservation Officer who, frankly, at the time didn't really have a background in historic preservation. Arianna is correct. I mean, one of the things, you can look at is integrity. The marker for Heritage neighborhoods meant that maybe eventually they could become historic districts. I mean, as time goes on, some of the buildings were the integrity that wasn't there at a certain point in time, maybe there 10 years down the road,

15 years down the road. We have a lot of Post World War Two Neighborhoods. Not all of them are going to be able to be designated historic, some will. But the ones that aren't certainly could qualify for Heritage designation. I think as long as we're doing local designations, you do have some flexibility on how you designate those. Some of those may not move up to the National Register status. But you can still designate those locally. I do think it's a good idea to have some flexibility on some of your local designations.

A couple of important points, though, when we first brought this up, when we were getting the grant, one of the compromises we had to make, when this ordinance was approved, was a stay of demolition for designated historic properties. Currently, it's six months. We've lost significant historic resources because a developer will say six months, no big deal, I'll wait six months. Then they go ahead, and they demolish the buildings and build whatever they were going to build. A lot of ordinances have one year. I think the city of Phoenix is one year. I think if we do our best practices, we're going to find a lot of communities have one year. The idea is if you have an extended period, say one year, that's a long time for someone to wait. They can wait six months but waiting a year, financing, and things, it brings people to the table so you can have a discussion. That's what really the intent of that stay of demolition is, to get people to come to the table and saying, hey, this is a significant resource, are there other things you can do other than demolition? Can you do stabilization? Can you preserve part of the building, as opposed to let's just demolish it? And like I mentioned, we've lost significant resources on that.

The other thing, which was coming up with the Certificate of Appropriateness as we discussed, and you know, we had a ruling from the City Attorney, because the Historic Preservation Board is the appeal body on applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. The Board's only role in that discussion is when something's appealed. We actually had a couple of cases appealed. When the Board got involved, it went contrary to what the recommendation was of the Historic Preservation Officer, but everybody left happy. We came up with some really good solutions. I think, Brandon, I think, James, I think you were involved in some of those discussions and the property owner left happy and the Board was satisfied. One of the things we kind of talked about, and I think other communities may do that, is there a way to get the Historic Preservation Board involved in that discussion process earlier in the process, as opposed to just as an appeal? I think it would make people feel better about the preservation program if we could do that. That was one thing I was hoping to hear on best practices is number one on the demolition, and number two is how are the Historic Preservation Board is involved in Certificates of Appropriateness. How can they interact with the property owners early on? The other benefit from that it gets the Historic Preservation Officer and the Board more in line with one another. When applications are made, the Historic Preservation Officer kind of already knows what the Board's looking for as well. As opposed to saying, well, this is what I'm going to do which might appear to a property owner to be dictatorial, and then it comes to the Board and the Board works it out. It creates some angst that maybe isn't necessary. I think it would help the program.

Just a couple other comments. On the presentation, I guess I was concerned a little bit about the wording about "eliminate the mimicking of Arizona, or National Register criteria for new designations". When we designate, especially like a local designation, in most cases that I was involved with, there's an expectation from some of these property owners that geez, maybe I'd like to see my property be part of the National Register, or along those lines. If you eliminate following those guidelines, or at least being consistent, maybe change the word from "mimicking" to say maybe "try to be consistent" with those criteria. I think that's extremely, extremely important. When we're designating properties, if you're not using some sort of universal standards for preservation programs, and right now it's basically the National Register standards, then some of your designations maybe fall into something that might not be the historic designation, but maybe fall into the Heritage designation we have. But I would strongly recommend removing that word to eliminate mimicking those criteria, that basically sounds like we're not going to have, we're not going to follow those criteria at all. I'm not sure if that was the intent, but that's the way it kind of comes across.

As far as designating the interiors, I think that's kind of an interesting, good idea. Through the inexperience of the acting Historic Preservation Officer, we lost the original entrance to the Landmark restaurant. When that was renovated, it was still inside the building. That again was a problem where the Board had no idea that C of A was going on. By the time we got to it, everything was done. The Board brought that up and the Officer said I didn't know that was there. Well, if they would have brought it to the Board, they could have said, hey, the interior is interesting here. It has the original entrance. Can we preserve that? And it probably could have been preserved. As well as the neon sign that was out front that got taken out to the dump, so we lost that as well. That's where I think it's real critical to have Historic Preservation Office staff and the Board work a little bit more closely together on that. I think that's all the comments I have. I'd be happy to take any questions.

Boardmember Nelson

To piggyback on what you're saying, the Nile Theater was a great example of that. When I did the documentary, some of the elders that came in their 90s would go what happened to the mask? That's the first thing they asked. They said they had a mask over here and what happened all that? That building got taken over from person to person and all that stuff just went away. There were posters and everything throughout. I think that's a great idea we consider that, so we don't lose those things. It would have been wonderful to have some of those Egyptian masks even today just to look at them. Great idea. Thank you.

Arianna Urban

Vice-Chair Babos and members of the Board if I may address one of Mr. Marek's comments. The bullet point in the presentation about not "mimicking" any of the Arizona National Register Standards was a little bit confusing. The intent of the expanded criteria is to include the traditional A, B, C, and D criteria that the National Register employs and then adding to it as well. We will still

have the core National Register criteria as part of our ordinance and then add expanded criteria to it as well.

Greg Marek

Well, thanks for that clarification. The point I should have made as well, is when you're designating historic properties, it seems like a lot of the focus, which is because we're looking at buildings and properties, is on the architectural integrity. Bruce was alluding to it; you can also designate neighborhoods and other areas for cultural purposes as well. It kind of shows the pattern for development. They may have a significant part of it. Certainly, Washington-Escobedo has a very strong connection to Mesa's history. It was a pivotal aspect there. Even looking at that, the culture aspects for the Washington Park area, may at some point in time, maybe it could be designated as the historic district. By doing so, looking at the Heritage Districts, and still making sure that there's integrity of what's remaining there could lead to some of these historic district designations.

Boardmember Nelson

I agree. I think it's about the people, not just the building. The people and what they represent, and what they've gone through. That's hard to document. Thank you for that.

Vice-Chair Babos

Thank you, Greg.

- 5. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on a proposal from the Saguaro Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution regarding a historical marker in Mesa.**

Vice-Chair Babos

Item number five is a presentation from this World Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution regarding a historical marker in Mesa.

Rosemary McMasters

Good evening. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice Chairman, members of the Board, and Ms. Urban for the opportunity to present to you tonight. I'm Rosemary McMasters. I'm the Chapter Regent for this Saguaro Chapter. The Daughters of the American Revolution is a service organization. I'll be talking a little bit more about that in a moment. I'd like to introduce two my colleagues behind me, on my left here is our Vice-Regent, Diana Johnson and then to my right here is Kristen Matthias, our Recording Secretary. Who the Daughters of the American Revolution are, you may be you're aware of it, if you're not, basically to be a member of this organization, any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background, who can prove a lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. They don't necessarily need to be somebody who got up on a horse or carried a rifle, or a bayonet, or even a knife. But they in some way contributed to the revolution itself, whether paying taxes, or whatever. We have over 190,000 members. This year, we celebrated or last year, I guess, a pandemic, you sort of lose track of time,

but we celebrated our 1,000,000th member. Our objectives are historic preservation, which is one of the reasons we're here tonight. We're also supporters of education and patriotism. I think it's fair to say over 50% of our members are teachers and history teachers at that. It's a group that understands and appreciate the historic nature of our communities. Our motto is God, home, and country. In serving Mesa we do a number of service events throughout the year, whether it's food pantries, serving active-duty military, veterans, etc.

So why am I here tonight and why does the DAR do what they do? The graphic is a picture. Particularly of this graveyard right here. This is where my five times great grandfather is buried. I didn't know that until three years ago. I've never visited here. I do plan to do that. But he was a Colonel in the Revolutionary Army. He guarded West Point and was instrumental in capturing John Andre, who assisted Benedict Arnold during his escape, and has quite a history. Two of my uncle's one sign the Constitution, one sign the Declaration of Independence. Again, I didn't know this until less than four years ago. I appreciate the fact that somebody cared enough about our patriots to keep track of them. One of them was the chapter where they're buried, who kept track of the cemetery. They provided an historical marker. While I do have a picture of the plaque, the gateway over it, is part of that marker. You can look at the graves and see that they could have been lost in time, had in 1908, somebody not cared enough to say look, this needs to be recognized and preserved and they did that. I could take you to another grave of my other grandfather, same generation. It's overgrown in some Pennsylvania farmland. That will be my real reason for going east. To talk to that landowner and ask them if we could not do something to preserve that that grave site. She was on YouTube talking and she said, "Yeah, they're a bunch of preachers out here. They're all in the Revolutionary War." and I'm like, "Oh, that's my grandpa". So anyway, we are committed to historical markers in our communities as well and particularly, in recognizing our heroes.

On my comment card last month, I talked a little bit about the semi quincentennial, of our becoming a country. One of the items that DAR is supporting is putting a plaque in every city. We know there's one that's going to go down at Wesley Bolin Plaza. There's the legislation moving through to get that approved. There isn't a reason why Mesa can't have one too.

What I'd like to do is show you some examples of some historical markers. They're not all just plaques they can be really whatever we want it to be. The point of being here tonight is to partner with you to determine what might be the best place to start. Tempe has five DAR markers that I was able to count. There's no reason Mesa can't too. There's just a little competition there.

This particular marker is, I'm going to say boiler plate, the goal is to have one in every state in the Union prior to the semi quincentennial. We could have obviously have more than one. We would have to get approval through DAR as well, our state and national societies for wording and marker language and all of that. This one's already been pre-approved so it would be fast, and one of the less expensive options to do a marker. It could go wherever the Board thinks would be appropriate.

I personally think outside of a city office or a high traffic area where government is done is a good choice. But that would be up to you.

This year is the 100th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. One of the activities that we're, as a national organization, undertaking is putting a Never Forget Garden in as many communities as possible. Whether it be in your own backyard, or in a city or public space. We currently have committed to do one. We're well underway and we'll dedicated on Veterans Day at Viewpoint RV Park, and it's going to be lovely. We will be putting these markers as steppingstones in the garden and featuring white roses. We could do just a garden, we could do much more than that. We could also put it, if we do have an historical marker and the site's appropriate, we could do a garden there as well or do a garden separate from that.

Last year was the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration. I've included a picture of the proclamation by the state of Arizona. This is an example of a 50th anniversary marker. It could be placed wherever would be appropriate. Probably you know what, I'm not going to kid you, we love the Mesa cemetery. I know it's weird. We do. We're very fond of it and spent time there. I think it's a point of pride for our city as well, that may be a place to do it. But it could be other places as well. Mesa Cemetery, because of its historical significance, can have its own marker. I've given two examples here. Again, we would as a group decide what would be best and where we would want to place it. But this would be an area. The sections on the grounds dedicated to the different groups, whether it's the RAF Pilots, the Unknown Person buried during the Great Depression. Just the historic nature in general of the cemetery deserves, I think, some attention and we'd like to remember it.

I know the Washington-Escobedo Neighborhood is near and dear to the Board's heart. I was really pleased to see them win the award. Last month I got to ride up in the elevator with the group and I said, "you're still friends after all this, that's awesome". That isn't always the case. But again, here's an example of the types of things that could be done for educational purposes. That's a much lower cost so we could do several things if that's the case, but we do want to do some recognition of that neighborhood or could do some recognition. I think that would be a great place to begin.

Finally, I pulled some examples of the West. Markers are in the West because we think what do we have to do with the Revolutionary War and we have everything to do with it. We're part of the country. It didn't end that day the country's history continues. The Madonna of the Trail statue, there is one down at Wesley Bolin Plaza, but the one in Springerville is the one that the DAR put in, actually on the route itself. These are other examples in Laramie, Reno, and Anchorage. Everyone has a point of pride, and these are plaques that they put there in addition to other things. It wouldn't necessarily have to be just that. So that is my presentation. I hope I've given you some ideas. Any questions or thoughts?

Vice-Chair Babos

Thank you for the presentation. Actually, very interesting. I'm not sure myself, are you looking for suggestions on where to put it? Or do you have suggestions on where you'd like it to go?

Rosemary McMasters

We have a little history with this marker. For at least eight years and maybe longer, they have tried to place a marker. They raised funds. They have the money. They wanted to put a marker at Falcon Field, and they got an okay for that. Then they said, "Oh, but we're going to be demolishing that area, so we'll have to take the marker out". Well, that broke their heart. Then the group decided, I wasn't part of the group at the time, they decided, well, Williams Field would be acceptable as well. We are committed to the military and recognizing our members in service. That's, I think, why they wanted to go there. Many of our members are either military themselves, veterans themselves, or married to either active duty or retired. Williams Field seemed to be the second choice. ASU was part of that, and getting through the bureaucracy of that, they either didn't have the energy, the skills, or the interest to keep going.

Every month, we would be in these meetings about, we have all this money we want to spend on a marker. It's a designated for a marker. What are we going to do? When I became Regent, I said, this is going to be my mission. We will get a marker. So, do we want suggestions? I know you all have been given a gift, lovely gifts that maybe you didn't want or need, or think were appropriate. Thinking of the Falcon Field and Williams Field experience, we want to make sure that it's something for the city of Mesa wants. There's fundings there. The toil and tears have been there. This group considers ourselves, whether you've heard of us or not, and probably not, we do consider ourselves a strength of Mesa and a pillar in the community. We want to show that with our gift to the city of Mesa, but also the recognition of some of the history. So yeah, we are looking for suggestions. But you know, we're also happy to say, okay, we'll do this, but we don't want our hearts broken again. We'd like to do it as a team.

Vice-Chair Babos

Not speaking for the Board, I'd be happy to see it anywhere in Mesa. I think it's a terrific idea. When you mentioned high traffic areas, my immediate thought went to the airport. At Williams, maybe something in the terminal, because they do get quite a people going through there. The other thought was the new ASU campus right here. Theoretically, there's going to be a lot of kids going through there. I think the older generation recognizes it, or is more cognizant of it, but if you can put it someplace with younger people, they'll become aware of it and maybe they'll become more involved. So perhaps that's another option for you to put it.

Rosemary McMasters

We've explored the ASU option. We know it's a number of issues. So having a partner that can help us steer through that I think would be important. I'm nothing, if not tenacious and pushy and I do have a black belt nagging. But all of that aside, it only takes me so far. There will be a marker

somewhere. I'm convinced of it. But I'd like it to be something that the city wants. Any other questions or thoughts?

Boardmember Nelson

Well, you may not like what I have to say. I did do a little research on your group. I'm inspired that you're so passionate about your history and being connected to that time in America. That people remember their history. Everybody likes to know their history.

A couple things popped out to me. In the era that we're in, with pulling down of statues from the Civil War, because of the representation. It's not just America, it's worldwide. Even in Australia and Canada, people are looking at it and saying why are we highlighting these folks? They've been pulling down Dundas Street, which is a very long Street in Toronto. They're having quite a controversy, changing the name because he was a slave trader. So, to me, those are the things that stood out to me. I went back and I thought, well, let me think about this for a minute and look at these three wars here that we had. No mention of Crispus Attucks at all there. That was fascinating. Everybody knows who Crispus Attucks is right? I found that curious. When the Revolutionary War happened, they were fighting for their way of life. Their way of life was owning Negros. That's what they wanted. They wanted to continue that. That's how they felt. They fought, and they said, to the Negros on both sides, if we win, we will free you. America won; they didn't free them. The next war, 1812, Negros if you fight for us, we will free you. They said that on both sides, they said we'll give you money, we'll give you land. That happened. They didn't free them. Then the Civil war came. Now it was internal, fighting for their way of life. And people get that confused. Their way of life was enslaving people. That's what they wanted to maintain. That's what they wanted. When we won, they were free. Reconstruction happened. It was working. There are some wonderful documentaries if you don't believe me. Henry Louis Gates Jr. made a wonderful documentary about that. So, to me, how many of those, with that heritage, I think there was four or five women that founded this organization, how many of their families owned slaves?

Rosemary McMasters

At that time, I can't say, but probably all.

Bruce Nelson

Probably all of them. So, to me, to commemorate those patriots in that manner seems a little odd.

Rosemary McMasters

I want to correct you on one thing. You said, "you're probably not going to like what I have to say", I'm actually happy that you brought it up, because I think it's something that we do want to address. Again, we've got 13 colonies, 13 "states", and each of them are different. I'm not going to apologize, or maybe I should, but, you know, I can't go back and fix what is broken there.

Boardmember Nelson

I'm not asking you to do that. Don't shift it around. That's not what I'm asking.

Rosemary McMasters

But let me finish. I know that my patriot's family, owned slaves. I also know that they were the first in the first state to free those slaves in New York prior to the Revolutionary War. My patriot's niece, his sister's daughter, is Elizabeth Cady Stanton, one of the first abolitionists in the country. What encourages me as I look at my history, is that every generation got better. Now, when it came to suffrage, did they throw the African American woman under the bus so that they could get suffered through? Yeah, they did. They made a decision, and they did that. We also know that it came through later. I try to look at it in the span of history and know that things got better, some got worse, but some got better.

I also want to address the statues coming down. I don't know of any that were put up in the south by the DAR, particularly the Robert E. Lee's and those statues. I applaud them coming down. I speak for myself, not for DAR, in that. But most of those that were put up by organizations were the daughters of the Confederacy. They had a different agenda. That's what they did. That was their mission and what they did. That's not our mission. My ancestor got up on a horse to defend us from England, to separate from us. I'd like to think it wasn't about slavery. It probably was partly there. I can't get into his head on that. But I do know that he wanted one country and that's what they supported. He was in Canada. He lost his land in Canada to come back to the United States, what was now the United States. He gave up significant treasure to be able to do that. I know it was more than just one thing. All people are complicated. And our history is complicated.

Boardmember Nelson

No, I'm not saying that. The overall through line is their way of life. I remember that in one of the greatest speeches, I think ever came from Frederick Douglass, he said "what is the fourth of July to the slave?". We don't hear that enough. Yes, there were the abolitionists. There were always people saying this is not a way to conduct in America. But to me to commemorate those folks for their quality of life at any level seems a little odd to me. That we want to put them on a pedestal saying, they were patriots they fought England. Well, you know what, you were doing the same thing on the other side. From my perspective, I have a feeling based on what I've read, you're going to do what you want. I have a feeling you're going to make it happen, whether I support it or not. That's my gut feeling. When I read all the material about what you all do, I think it's going to happen. I at least wanted to have my say about it, and have my concerns about it. There are some wonderful documentaries, I'm going to list some. If you get a chance take a look at them. The "13th", a wonderful documentary by Ava DuVernay. The "14th" is a series Will Smith narrates that. "I Am Not Your Negro" a wonderful documentary. Watch those it will give you a real sense of what's going on. "Reconstruction", Henry Louis Gates Jr. did a great job on that, a three-part series about what happened, what really was going on. That's my concern, like I say, I have a feeling this is going to happen no matter what. But at least I want you to know that's the through

line through those wars. They wanted to maintain their quality of life. Their quality of life was owning Negros. That's how they made their money. That's all I really want to say. Thank you for coming. You guys have any other comments, go ahead, and make them.

Chair Benzing

From my perspective, I think one of the key detractors of a lot of monuments that have been put in different places across countries that they're singular. I think if we go about doing something of this nature, we have to create a place where there's multiples. So, we get the whole historic aspect. They can't be standalone. In my viewpoint, that place would probably be someplace like Pioneer Park. I mean in its name it speaks to how this city was founded. It again only tells one side of the story. Being that it's the main park in downtown Mesa, it seems a logical place to bring all stories, all recognition, and get all viewpoints if we're going to do something as far as these recognition plaques. City Hall doesn't seem like the place for it just because of, as we all know, what's going on around that central piece of our city. It's being revitalized. It'd be the same situation as at Falcon Field. I would fear for any plaque or recognition going there. It would eventually get relocated, demolished, lost. To me, if we're going to start recognizing some of these different associations, it seems we need to find some central location where they can all be viewed and get a more holistic, historical context of everything.

Boardmember Nelson

I agree. I think public space is not a place for something like this. You're right there needs to be a more complete story told when you put these things up. When you put them in public spaces people don't know the full background about it. The story they tell about Crispus Attucks is not complete unless you really do the research to find out. You don't get the full story about the man. If this happens, which I think it is, I would say it's something not for a public space. Something more appropriate might be the place to do it. And if you're really going to delve into it, tell the full story about all three of those wars if we're going to do it.

Vice-Chair Babos

Anyone else? Thank you very much for the presentation.

Rosemary McMasters

My initial reaction is I love the idea. So, we'll go back and continue our work.

Vice-Chair Babos

Look forward to seeing you in the future.

6. Historic Preservation Officer's Updates:

a. Upcoming neighborhood meetings to discuss updates to the Historic Preservation design guidelines and Chapters 23 and 74 of the Mesa Zoning Ordinance.

Arianna Urban

Thank you Vice-Chair Babos and members of the Board. The first update I have for you tonight is a plan that we are putting together to use the time slot for our November Historic Preservation Board meeting to host a public meeting regarding the new Design Guidelines and the new Ordinance. That way, hopefully all the Board members will be able to attend, and we'll have the room designated already. It's a great show of support for the Historic Preservation Program if we can get Board members to come to these meetings and introduce themselves, be a part of the community dialogue in that way. So, the November HP Board meeting we're planning to host a public meeting instead.

b. 2021 Arizona Historic Preservation Conference including Board Member attendance.

Arianna Urban

The other Historic Preservation Officer update I have is regarding the 2021 Historic Preservation Conference. We have some funds available for a few Board members to attend. If anyone is interested, please let me know. The conference is October 25th, 26th, and 27th of this year. As of now, I believe it's still going on in person.

There's a couple of sub bullet points to the Historic Preservation Conference. The first one is the State Historic Preservation Office has arranged for the National folks to come and give Historic Preservation Board Commissioner training to anyone that's available on Wednesday. It's free and it's all day on October 27th. It's called C.A.M.P. It's all-day training on how to be a better Historic Preservation Board. I'm going to be there 100% and we would really love to host anyone else at C.A.M.P. as well. I'll send out an email with all this info and then the conference itself is the following Thursday and Friday. The second bullet point under that is, in case anyone hasn't heard yet, the Washington-Escobedo Neighborhood Action Committee was awarded one of the Governor's Historic Preservation Awards. The award ceremony will be that Friday at a luncheon and that's where they'll announce the even higher Honor Award as well. That's always a surprise. Vic, do you have anything that you want to add about the conference? He's one of our one of the organizers.

Vic Linoff

That summer C.A.M.P. is something that I really recommend. That's "Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program" and you'll get a lot out of it.

Also, I would encourage you, if you're going to attend, to attend the Public Policy Session. One of the big obstacles in historic preservation is working with public officials. This will be a double session. We've done this before. For this session, Mayor Giles will be on the panel, Mayor Corey Woods from Tempe, Mayor Kate Gallego from Phoenix, and now his name escapes me, he's a supervisor, a county supervisor down by Nogales. We've got a representation from urban and rural. This is really an audience engagement program. It's designed to bring the preservation community

together with policymakers. Often policymakers just don't understand what the issues are. The ones we've done previously have been a big success. That's going to be on Thursday, October 28th 2:50 to 4:40 pm. Lani Lott with the Arizona Heritage Alliance and the Main Street Program and I will be moderating that panel.

I just want to remind everybody that October 23rd, from 8:00 to 10:00 am is the Mesa Historical Museum's Tour of the cemetery and you'll meet some of the important characters that are part of Mesa's history.

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

Boardmember Nelson

I'm inviting you all to my exhibit, it opens November the 8th through the 13th, The Veterans of Washington-Escobedo. It is sponsored by Mesa United Way, and it's going to be at the Veterans Resource Center, right over here, across from the library and the hotel. It'll be open during the day. I think the times are 9:00 to 7:00. If you happen to be around, it would be great to see you there. We're going to kick it off that Monday. Hopefully the Vice-Mayor will be there. Some other people have talked about it, so we'll do that kind of formal thing. I just worked on veterans from that particular neighborhood because I thought that was kind of unique. We found two guys on the Civil War that actually at one point lived in that neighborhood. We stopped in World War Two. We didn't do Vietnam because that was my era, and I didn't think that was appropriate. We have some wonderful storyboards, and you can see a couple of films that are rarely seen.

Vice-Chair Babos

Any other items?

8. Future agenda items.

Vice-Chair Babos

I'd kind of like to, I don't know if this is our realm, revisit the timeframe for demolition of historic properties. Six months is no big deal. It takes you that long to get a building permit these days. Pushing that out to a year I think is a little bit more of an eye opener for the owner/developer. Maybe we can have an open discussion about that next meeting.

Chair Benzing

Out of curiosity, are these agenda items getting postponed then to the December meeting? Given that November's a community meeting.

Arianna Urban

Chair Benzing and members of the Board, we'll have to take a look and see what's the best way to distribute the agenda items. To be continued.

Vice-Chair Babos

I'd also like to mention the historic essay that we went through last year. I think we started in the fall, didn't we distributed before the holidays, and then it got back after the holidays. I think if we want to do it, we need to talk about it before the holidays, set up a plan for distributing it after the holidays and then a timeframe on it.

Arianna Urban

Chair, Vice-Chair Babos, members of the Board. That is certainly correct. Thank you for reminding me about the essay contest. I'll have you all perhaps think of topics that we can that we can write on for next year.

9. Adjournment.

Vice-Chair Babos

With no other items. Would someone want to make a motion for adjournment?

Boardmember Bingham

I move to adjourn.

Boardmember Skogebo

I second.

AYES: Benzing-Babos-Bingham-Nelson-Skogebo

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

Vice-Chair Babos

The meeting is adjourned at 7:35 pm.