

DRAFT MINUTES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION DECEMBER 11, 2019

Minutes of the regular hearing of the Historic Preservation commission, of the City of Tempe, which was held at the Hatton Hall, 34 East Seventh Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Regular Meeting 6:03 PM

Present:	Staff:
Chuck Buss, Chair	Alex Smith, Deputy Director of Special Projects
Martin Ball, Vice Chair	John Southard, Historic Preservation Officer
Matthew Bilsbarrow	Steve Abrahamson, Principal Planner
Jim Garrison	Brittainy Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Laurene Montero	
Elizabeth Gilbert	
Greg Larson	
Joe Nucci	
Christopher Garraty	

- 1) **Call to Audience:** Persons wishing to address the Commission on any matter may do so at the discretion of the Chair. However, Arizona Open Meeting Law limits Commission discussion to matters listed on the posted agenda. Other topics may be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

- 2) Voting of the Meeting Minutes

Motion by Vice Chair Ball to approve the Meeting Minutes of October 16, 2019; second by Commissioner Larson. Motion passed on 9-0 vote.

Ayes: Chuck Buss, Martin Ball, Christopher Garraty, Matthew Bilsbarrow, Jim Garrison, Laurene Montero, Elizabeth Gilbert, Greg Larson, Joe Nucci,

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- 3) Approval of 2019 Annual Report

Presentation by Staff, John Southard

Mr. Southard informed the Commissioners that the report is something that the City Clerks office request every year for the past three years for all the various Boards and Commissions with the City. The reports are given to

the City Council to establish what the various Boards and Commissions are working on during the year. The report does have basic information such as dates of meetings, and service dates for the members. As well as what accomplishments are done during the year.

Commission Discussion

Vice Chair Ball stated he was not in attendance to one of the meeting in September and if that could be corrected.

Commissioner Gilbert stated that she noticed in the report that the commission was not present in October and that is incorrect because they did meet during the month of October just at a later date.

Motion by Vice Chair Ball to approve the Annual Report for 2019 with corrections; second by Commissioner Gilbert. Motion passed on 9-0 vote.

Ayes: Chuck Buss, Martin Ball, Christopher Garraty, Matthew Bilsbarrow, Jim Garrison, Laurene Montero, Elizabeth Gilbert, Greg Larson, Joe Nucci,

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

4) Streetcar Signage Project

Presentation by Staff, Eric Iwerson and Jared Smith

Mr. Iwerson informed the board that his group is there to go over the draft ideas of the Streetcar Signage and to please provide as much feedback as possible. The Streetcar is about 75 percent complete and the grant money has been received for funding the project. The next stage of the process is doing the stops there will be one at Mill and 6th, Apache, Rio Salado and Ash is being worked on currently. Now is time to see the landscaping and Shelters at the stops go up. There will be six vehicles that are coming from Pennsylvania as well. Expecting for the streetcar to be operational in the Spring/Summer of 2021. The cost will be the same as the current transportation system in Tempe. This will be the 27th transportation service in Tempe.

Commissioner Larson asked that the streetcar in Tucson has had several crashes with bikes and he would like to know if there are going to be markings on the ground to show that there are tracks.

Mr. Iwerson stated that if you are on sixth and Mill and you are going North or South. Then there will be no signage because you cross the tracks perpendicular. There are however sections where they will place the green bike paths so that they are aware of the areas in which the bike lane gets close to the tracks. There is also special signage going up that are federal regulations to show the rails. These are going up right now around town. There are also videos that inform the pedestrian and biker how to interact with the train.

Chair Buss asked if you pay for a fare on the Bus or light rail will that get you on the street car as well.

Mr. Iwerson stated that the short answer is yes however they are still working out details on how it will work. Because they are developing a new fare system for the whole region and they are trying to develop a smartcard and smart phones so that sales are more ticketless.

Chair Buss asked if each stop will have a unique history signage.

Mr. Iwerson stated that all the 14 stops there will be a sign. They will have the same look some are bigger than others. The shelters are the same, the landscaping is the same.

Chair Buss wanted to know if the signage will be specific to each station.

Mr. Iwerson stated that is correct. They are going to the different Boards and Commissions to find out what feedback they have. Mr. Iwerson then turned the floor over to Jared Smith from the History Museum.

Mr. Smith informed the Commissioners that the ideal behind the signs is to provide some history behind each stop. The Signage will vary per station most of the images are from the History Museum archives. The signage will be very image heavy and less text. As much as possible to include the diversity images and time perspectives. Mr. Smith then started to go through each stop and get the Commissioners feedback per stop.

The first stop being at the South eastern end being Dorsey and Apache. Where the sign will highlight Harmonds Red Barn and where the First KFC in the area was located. Electric Ballroom and Bayline shopping Center will show the different culture periods.

The next stop is Paseo Del Saber and Apache is dominated by the Wigwam.

Followed by College and Apache which is dominated by Goodwin Stadium. There is a feature of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr giving a speech in the hot Arizona June weather. This area is dominated by a lot of sports history.

Vice Chair Ball stated that there should be a QR code link on the signage to the Museum that would allow you to bring in more of the background information on the area. Where you can read through the signage right now while you wait for the streetcar however there is no website or anything if you see something and want to know more information on it.

Mr. Iwerson stated that he has received that comment before, and they are looking into adding something like that to the signs.

Vice Chair Ball stated that there can also be a link through Valley Metro that would say something along the lines of interested in the graphics that you see at the platforms follow this.

The next stop at 9th and Mill is where they talk about Educational history with Tempe High School. Featuring the fire that burned the high school in 55 and the Tempe Center replacing it.

Then at 6th and Mill there will be the Tempe National Bank, the hardware building, the grocery store, the O'Malley,

Commissioner Bilsbarrow asked if on 9th and Mill they would consider talking about Maple Ash. It is not a historic district but is a neighborhood that has several structures in it that are listed on the City register. Is it something that was left out for a specific reason or something that could be drawn out for the station?

Mr. Smith stated that this is feedback that they appreciate. A lot of the photographs are in play because there is such a high density of the businesses. However, they are willing to work some of the other structures in. There is the possibility of breaking it up and putting in some neighborhoods maybe even things like the woman's club.

At the 3rd and Mill stop you have a lot of the historical icons of early Mill from 1880 to 1890 next to the work crew of the 1930's era. There are some photos of the Highway and how Mill used to be a Highway up till the mid 80's going through Tempe.

Commissioner Nucci asked if there could be a photo of four US Shields and the state route that sits in the medium.

Mr. Smith stated that sounds good because it shows the five highways tied together in one spot.

Then the loop of University and Ash shows the casings of the More house, and photos of the fire at the Cotton Exchange. There are also photos of the South Methodist Church where downtown used to have churches everywhere. Where we have two that still standing to this day.

Mr. Abrahamson asked if they have considered putting in the Whataburger photo. One of the early Whataburger with the great architecture.

Mr. Smith stated that is a great idea because a lot of the culture with going to see the bands all night and then finding a late-night food place to eat.

Then up to 5th and Ash where there is an incorporation of warehouse for the Phoenix Maricopa railroad there is still some of the old railroad under the road in the area. The predecessor to the streetcar was Goodwin Streetcar that was pulled by mules. The Depot photo that was in the area was on the Ash and the warehouse was under Ash just south of 5th Street. There is also a panorama view off to the agriculture rail line and the buffer zone that shows the Tempe stock yards.

Then up to 3rd and Ash where the Depot Cantina is currently located. The photos in this area show the life cycle of the Depot Cantina.

Around the Tempe Beach Park area and Rio Salado show images of children playing in the pool and baseball field. There is an aerial photo that brings all the bridges into play.

For the Hayden Ferry and Rio Salado station that is being done by the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community. That will have their own style but still tie into the Signage theme.

Mr. Alex Smith stated that they should consider removing the photo of the people climbing on the butte. Climbing on the Butte is something that the City does not encourage.

Chair Buss asked if there were any photos of the pool building.

Mr. Smith stated that they have the replacement from the 60's.

Commissioner Bilsbarrow asked if the stops are going to have the stop names and if so, then does that need to be repeated on the signs and replace that wording with something that will grab people's attention.

Mr. Smith stated he is not sure where the information is going and that is good point where they can make sure pictures bigger if they can remove the heading information.

Mr. Iwerson stated that this money is not the original construction and grant money it is the City money so there is more latitude.

Commissioner Nucci stated that the brand that was created with the historic Tempe and the image in the Middle of the signs is consist from stop to stop but it doesn't need to be. Instead of showing the Mill 14 times put more white space behind the photos and the photos will maybe show better. How the Banner say the Tempe Historic but the background change from stop to stop specific to where the signage is.

Vice Chair Ball stated that they have about 25 percent of the service area dedicated to banner. Which can be used more creatively specific to the location if there is a lead in that is consist, so people understand it is the same idea.

Commissioner Montero asked is there a way to put in the Native American History beside the one by the Butte just to pull that theme throughout.

Mr. Southard stated that the idea came about to put the information in just one location to be represented.

Chair Buss stated that a meeting maybe a year ago there was someone that made an illustration of the area just east of mill ave showing Native American features that were originally in the area but may not be there now.

Vice Chair Ball asked if Lemon with its unusual alignment with the City does that follow a historic or prehistoric canal. Might be an ideal place to put at one end of the line and almost at the other to bookend and talk about the idea that this is one place with many people and many time periods.

Commissioner Nucci stated that Lemon is where the railroad is located.

Mr. Smith Stated he can look into connect the stops the way that Vice Chair Ball talked about.

5) Chair / Staff Updates

Presentation by Staff, John Southard

There will be a foundation party on Wednesday December 18, 2019 at 6 pm and the commissioners should have received their invitations already.

There has been an extension for the call for Sessions to the end of the Month of December for the Historic Preservation Convention.

At Hayden House there has been several inches of the coating on the outside completed. There has been an order placed for the Shutters from the Arizona Correctional Institution.

The 8th Street project with the railroad there is a creamer branch that has history. At some point about 20 years from now the branch had the highest degree of integrity. Now that there is work that needs to be done below the branch there is a balance between, the Historic and the Transportation funds.

Next Month there will be a presentation of the Bonus Program.

The Isan Draft house has had some challenges and there has been some patches and coating. There may be additional challenges in the future, but they are working them out.

Mr. Alex Smith stated that the City should be taking the Title to the Hayden House in the next or so.

6) Current Events / Announcements / Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Montero stated that they have a new sign up at Pueblo Grande.

Hearing adjourned at 7:38pm

Prepared by: Brittainy Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Reviewed by: