

MINUTES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

AUGUST 11, 2021

Minutes of the regular hearing of the Historic Preservation Commission, of the City of Tempe, which was held virtually.

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM

Present:	Staff:
Chuck Buss, Chair	Steve Abrahamson, Principal Planner
Chris Garraty	John Southard, Historic Preservation Officer
Jim Garrison	Brittainy Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Elizabeth Gilbert	Jared Smith, Senior Curator
Gregory Larson	
Laurene Montero	
Joe Nucci	
Reylynne Williams	
Kyle Woodson	

1) Voting of the Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Garraty to approve the Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2021; second by **Commissioner Nucci**. Motion passed on **3-0** vote.

Ayes: Chuck Buss, Chris Garraty, Joe Nucci

Nays: None

Abstain: Jim Garrison, Elizabeth Gilbert, Laurene Montero, Reylynne Williams, Kyle Woodson

Absent: Gregory Larson

Motion by Commissioner Montero to approve the Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2021; second by **Commissioner Garraty**. Motion passed on **3-0** vote.

Ayes: Chuck Buss, Chris Garraty, Laurene Montero

Nays: None

Abstain: Jim Garrison, Elizabeth Gilbert, Joe Nucci, Reylynne Williams, Kyle Woodson

Absent: Gregory Larson

Motion by Commissioner Montero to approve the Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2021; second by **Commissioner Garraty**. Motion passed on **5-0** vote.

Ayes: Chuck Buss, Chris Garraty, Jim Garrison, Laurene Montero, Joe Nucci

Nays: None

Abstain: Elizabeth Gilbert, Reylynne Williams, Kyle Woodson

Absent: Gregory Larson

2) Introduction of new members

Presentation by Staff, John Southard, Historic Preservation Officer

Mr. Southard informed the commissioners that there are two new commissioners. Commissioners Bilsbarrow and Vice Chair Ball had to step down. The two commissioners that were added is Kyle Woodson who is an archaeologist in replacement of Vice Chair Ball. The second appointment came about as a result to a recent revision to the Tempe Historic Preservation Ordinance that includes a permanent member representative from the Four Southern Tribes Culture Resource Working Group. The individual was nominated by the Four Southern Tribes Working Group and was appointed by the Mayor and City Council. The representative is Reyllynne Williams a member of the Gila River Indian Community and works for the Gila River Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Woodson stated that he is a professional archaeologist and have been a resident of Tempe for 27 years. He loves the City and has been trying to get a seat for years. Has been working as an archaeologist for about 30 years. Acquired his degrees in anthropology and archaeology from the University of Texas. His PHD is from Arizona state University. Has worked at Gila River Indian Community for 24 years. Serve as Director of the Cultural Resource Management Program for the past nine years.

Commissioner Williams stated that she is Akimel O' odham Navajo Apache and Mexican. Her mother is a member of the Gila River Indian community. Commissioner Williams has worked for the community for about 16 years where she started at the Resource Cultural Center lab in 2005. Has moved to several other areas since then and is now in the Tribal Historic Preservation Office for the past 7 years.

Mr. Southard suggested that the current members introduce themselves to the new members.

Chair Buss stated that he lives in an older 50's neighborhood that he has had two of the three areas created as a Historic District. He does community activism and does work as a realtor and fixing houses.

Commissioner Garraty stated that he has worked for the Gila River Indian Community for several years.

Commissioner Garrison stated he is a retired architect and has lived in Tempe since 1970. For 20 years he was the Historic Preservation Officer.

Commissioner Gilbert stated that she is a partner of the John Stillman Hockley Law Firm. Does not have a background in archaeology or architecture however has a passion for the preservation of historic sites.

Commissioner Larson stated that he is a Lawyer and fill a professional position on the Historic Preservation Commission in Historic Preservation Law. Lived in Tempe for 11 years and in different parts of the state for most of his life.

Commissioner Montero stated that she is the city archaeologist for the past 10 years in Phoenix. Has been a Tempe resident since 1985. Excited about the work that she has done with the Tribes when they met once month.

Commissioner Nucci stated that he has retired from the City of Tempe where he worked for 25 years as the Historic Preservation Officer. Now he is a volunteer on the Tempe Historic Preservation Commissioner as well as the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation. He lives in a historic home in the Maple Ash neighborhood.

3) HP plan update

Presentation by Staff, John Southard, Historic Preservation Officer

Mr. Southard informed the Commissioners that in 2019 the City Council approved funding for Historic Preservation Plan Update, Cultural resource inventory, City Wide Survey inventory of the built environment, and a Blanket Monitoring Discovery and Treatment. The RFP's were issued and the Blanket Monitoring Discovery and Treatment plan was awarded to Logan Simpson. The Historic Preservation Plan and update inventory was awarded to ACS. ACS started work on the efforts in 2020 then the pandemic happened, and it was a bit delayed. One task is a 1961 to 1975 survey and inventory of the built environment to include single family residential multifamily institutional. After initial discussion of the project of the Urban Core Master Plan there was a need to look at Pre-1961 buildings that would be in the Urban Core as well. The second task would be the inventory and research for 1961- 1975 properties. The third part is the Historic Preservation Plan update which is a page and half that described a vision then a comprehensive plan. The scope of the plan is to look at regulatory contexts, summary of Prehistoric and Historic Contexts and Tempe Resources, Tribal Perspective, Preservation Program, Planning Considerations. There is going to be a meeting held on Thursday August 12, 2021 to discuss the Tribal Perspective. In working with stakeholders and other municipalities there are things that need to be addressed. Such as a case that is up for consideration for certificate of appropriateness and to prevent from things being built before they have been seen by the Commission. The Recommended Policies and Practices with the City owned properties that are historic and treated as such. There are other properties that are eligible but are not designated wanting to ensure that the review and treatment of City owned properties are consistent and that the City holds itself to a high standard. Another item is to establish a protocol of how work being done and how it is planned and reviewed. Would like to have an annual inspection of City owned adobe buildings by a skilled contractor. Consider emulating City of Phoenix polices regarding demolition – 1 year stay for designated properties and 3 years for landmarks. As well as emulate City of Phoenix polices regarding review of demolition requests for properties at least 50 years old. A few processes that would need to be updated are the wavier of application fees for designations that must be codified, make status regarding the designations readily available to the public and employees, looking internally that all listed properties and eligible properties are noted in Accela and then securing a property record in that software to make sure that no changes can be made before approval, strengthen penalties and clarify enforcement in 14A-11, and expanding Historic Preservation office staffing levels. A few incentives that have been brought forward are to emulate the City of Phoenix preservation grant and the City of Scottsdale HRER program, as well as add preservation grant funding to the next bond election.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Garrison stated the plan looks very comprehensive.

Chair Buss stated that he is impressed by the thoroughness of the plan.

Mr. Southard stated that the Office is trying to make the most of the opportunity that has been presented.

4) Chair / Staff Updates

Mr. Southard informed the commissioners that the Hayden house has a wall that has been constructed by Jacob Butler which he showed a visual of.

The Tempe Streetcar Signage that will be placed at the Corner of Mill Ave and Rio Salado Parkway stop will be fabricated soon and installed in the next couple of months.

The Broadway Curve improvements update is that the consultation letters have been sent out. Where ADOT is looking for input and they are not sure where the designs will be placed. Showed the commission a few drawings of the images.

Mr. Southard informed the commissioners that he will be stepping down from the position on November 17, 2021.

5) Current Events / Announcements / Future Agenda Items

Mr. Southard informed the commissioners that Dr. Alex Smith has received a promotion where he is now the Director of Real-estate for Maricopa County his last date with the City of Tempe was July 12, 2021.

Commissioner Nucci stated that Alex Smith has a been a driving force in the success of Historic Preservation in Tempe for years he is truly one of a kind. Alex connection and dedication to the City of Tempe staff and commission volunteers has enhanced the community stewardship of cultural resources. There comes a point in everyone's career that one must choose between comfort and growth. Although it is sad to say goodbye the commission is excited for the road ahead of him. Best of luck and success from the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission.

Hearing adjourned at 7:10pm

Prepared by: Brittainy Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Reviewed by:

Steve Abrahamson, Principal Planner

SA:bn