

**ORIENTATION MINUTES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**April 20 2017**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Town Hall – Council Chambers**

**510 N. Coronado Blvd. Clifton, 85533**

**Members Present:**

Bette Antonson, Chair

Debbie Brinkley, Commissioner

Danette Reyes, Commissioner

B. Waddell Reyes, Commissioner

Mark Vinson, Commissioner

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Bette Antonson, Chairman, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Presentation by Eric Vondy, Preservation Incentives Programs Coordinator, State Historic Preservation Office:** Mr. Vondy began his presentation by explaining the role of a Certified Local Government. Three key elements are to (1) Identify Historic Properties, (2) Designate Historic Properties. (3) Protect Historic Properties.

Mr. Vondy reviewed that currently tax credits are available to properties who have been designated as historic. He reported that unfortunately there are no grant funds currently available to assist those property owners.

Also discussed was the requirements of Proposition 207 a.k.a The Private Property Rights Protection Act as well as the Secretary Of Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties: Standards for Rehabilitation

**Questions and Discussion related to Historic Preservation:**

Mr. Vondy addressed the first question presented by the commission: Clarify the Commissions area of authority within the Town of Clifton?

\*HP-Zone as defined by the Town of Clifton Planning & Zoning Map

\*Properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Mr. Vondy clarified the authority of the Commission to enforce the town's historic preservation ordinance within the HP-1 Zone. He also clarified that the Commission has no authority to enforce the town's ordinance on properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places outside of the HP-1 Zone.

The Commission asked for guidance on a recent issue brought forth by the local utility company related to possible upgrade of street light poles within the HP-Zone of the town. Mr. Vondy explained that the goal would be to encourage poles that blend in, contemporary yet blend in with the area.

Also discussed was the current presence of Southwest Gas whose project entails relocating their meters to the front of buildings and the effect of those relocations within the HP-Zone.

Question: Could the current Historic Preservation Ordinance be amended to allow for “alternate” members?

Commissioner’s expressed concern that it is difficult to obtain a quorum within the required time frame to review an application for a certificate of appropriateness.

Mr. Vondy recommended an ordinance amendment that might help with this issue. Consider adding language to designate a Hearing Officer to approve minor alterations.

Question: What authority does the Commission have to stop a historic building from demolition if its outside their area of authority?

Mr. Vondy explained that the Commission has no authority to report or stop a building from demolition. Other municipalities have put a hold on building permits affecting a historic property and forwarded the information to SHPO for their input.

Question: Could an individual request the designation of a landmark? The response was that Designation of Historic Properties must be 50 years in existence to be eligible for National Register designation.

Final comments from Mr. Vondy included information on the Arizona Historic Preservation Conference scheduled for June 14-16, 2017 in Oro Valley and encouraged their attendance.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Antonson, second to the motion was made by Commissioner Brinkley. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:05 p.m.