



**EL PASO HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES
SECOND FLOOR CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
November 5, 2007
4:00 P.M.**

The El Paso Historic Landmark Commission held a public hearing in City Council Chambers, second floor of the City Hall Building on Monday, November 5, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Commission Members Present:

John Karr
Daphne Hamilton
Daniel Delahaye
Nicholas Markovich
Russell Sackett
Ray Minjares
Hugo Gardea
Geoffrey Wright

Others Present:

Christina Valles, Lead Planner
Josette Flores, Assistant City Attorney
Maria Aragon, Administrative Assistant
Troy Ainsworth, Historic Preservation Officer
Trenda Rocha, Senior Office Assistant
Scott Winton, Property Owner Upson Drive
Charles Flynn, Executive Director, Yuma Crossing, AZ
Howard Deardorff, Deardorff Design, Ann Arbor, MI

Agenda

Chair Daphne Hamilton called the Historic Landmark Commission meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

I. CALL TO THE PUBLIC – PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Hamilton asked if there were any members of the public who would like to address the Historic Landmark Commission. There was no response.

Chair, Hamilton asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Dr. Ainsworth, Historic Preservation Officer, mentioned the addition on discussion and action in other business about proposed interior modifications to the Cortez Building at 310 N. Mesa Street.

II. REGULAR AGENDA – DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Certificate of Appropriateness

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|--------------------------|---|
| 1. HP07020 | Lots 28 and 29, and a portion of Lot 30, Block 6, Second Revised Map on Mundy Heights, City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas |
| Location: | 1509 Upson Drive |
| Historic District: | Sunset Heights |
| Property Owner: | Winton Custom Builders, Inc |
| Representative: | Scott Winton |
| Existing Zoning: | A-2/H (Apartment/Historic) |
| Representative District: | #8 |
| Year Built: | N/A (property currently vacant) |
| Contributing Status: | Non-contributing (property currently vacant) |

Request: Construction of two townhouses on the site
Application Filed: 9/28/07
45-Day Expiration: 11/12/07

Dr. Ainsworth, Historic Preservation Officer, gave a presentation on the construction of two townhouses on the site. A letter of support from Leah Osborne, President, Sunset Heights Neighborhood Improvement Association, dated November 4, 2007 was read to the Commission.

Mr. Scott Winton was present and answered questions and/or comments from the Commission. Commissioner Karr was concerned about the building of a rock wall without a building permit. Mr. Winton mentioned that there is footing in place for the rock wall.

Commissioner Gardea requested that the bricks on the house be placed as a soldier course and that the window frames be composed of a material other than aluminum.

There was discussion among the Commission.

Motion was made by Commissioner Sackett and seconded by Commissioner Wright to approve Certification of Appropriateness. The motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Sackett, Markovich, DeLaHaye, Gardea, Minjares, Wright

NAYS: none

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Karr

Chair Hamilton introduced new Commissioner Member Dr. Nicholas Markovich to the Commission.

Chair's Comments

2. The deadline of November 2, 2007 for HLC members to request for agenda items to be scheduled for the November 19, 2007 meeting has passed.
3. Feedback from HLC members and general public on compliance in the designated historic districts and independent historic structures.
 - A. Commissioner Wright wanted to know the status of the shade trees on Elm Street. Dr. Ainsworth answered that the question is a matter of the code compliance.
 - B. Commissioner DeLeHaye announced the Sunset Heights Tour of Homes will occur on December 12, 2007.

Museums and Cultural Affairs Department Report

4.
 - A. Dr. Ainsworth gave the report on the status of 19 Cumberland Circle. Bill Stern has been working with the owner. The new framing has been removed and the foundation and fireplace only remains. Owner has submitted a Certificate for Demolition.
 - B. Dr. Ainsworth gave a status report on the Old Fire Station 6 located at 2201 N. Piedras Avenue. City Council will discuss the matter on November 13, 2007, before it will be on the HLC agenda on December 3, 2007.
5. Dr. Ainsworth discussed the house at 1801 E. Rio Grande, which is owned by First Baptist Church. Church officials previously wanted to demolish the house for a surface parking lot. A historic overlay is recommended to prevent this potential outcome.

Building Permits and Inspections Division Report

6. Building Permits and Inspections had no report to present.

Other Business

7. Commissioner Sackett proposed for the Historic Landmark Commission to be involved in future projects on Fort Bliss through its auspices as a Certified Local Government and as an interested body.

There was discussion among the Commission.

Motion was made by Commissioner Markovich and seconded by Commissioner Minjares for a letter to be drafted from the HLC to be involved and participate as an interested body as Certified Local Government. The motion passed.

AYES: Commissioners Markovich, DeLaHaye, Minjares, Wright

NAYS: Commissioner Karr

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Sackett, Gardea

8. Charles Flynn and Howard Deardorff spoke about the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Heritage Tourism Plan. A grant from Preserve America funds project. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, a Spanish colonial route linking Central Mexico with Northern frontier, ran from México City to Santa Fe, NM. Dr. Ainsworth will give a report on the meeting from Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at the next HLC meeting.
9. Dr. Ainsworth gave information about a development at the Cortez Building at 301 N. Mesa Street. It was brought to his attention that there was construction on the first floor and not on the third floor. The lobby interior is one of the six designated historic interiors in El Paso.
10. Approval on the October 1, 2007 and October 15, 2007 HLC meetings minutes was postponed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:38 pm.

The Historic Landmark Commission may retire into Executive Session pursuant to Section 3.5 of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071-551.076 to discuss an item on this Agenda.

Maria Aragon
Administrative Assistant