



**EL PASO HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**May 1, 2006**  
**4:00 P.M.**

The El Paso Historic Landmark Commission held a public hearing in City Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the City Hall Building on Monday, May 1, 2006, at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present:

**Commission Members Present:**

Daphne Hamilton, Acting Chair  
Daniel Delahaye  
Russell Sackett  
Hector de Santiago  
Geoffrey Wright  
Carla Newman

**Others Present:**

Christina Valles, Senior Planner  
Joel Guzman, Chief Plans Examiner  
Nancy M. Spencer, Recording Secretary

**Board Members Absent:**

Raymond Rutledge

**Agenda**

Acting Chair Daphne Hamilton called the Historic Landmark Commission meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Christina Valles, Senior Planner, requested Items five through seven to be moved to the forefront,

**The commission voted to move Items five through to the forefront.**

Items for discussion and action:

5. Discussion and action to submit comments to the Texas Historical Commission on the proposed Alamito Complex HOPE VI Revitalization Plan.

Christina Valles, Senior Planner gave an update on the proposed revitalization plan.

Commissioner Geoffrey Wright left the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

**Commissioner Russell Sackett made a motion to record the architectural history and meet the HABS standards and include the stipulation in the memorandum to the Texas Historical Commission that an oral history be conducted to document the experiences of those that lived in the area since the 1930's and 1940's.**

**Mr. Sackett clarified his motion to include comments recommending the project and include the stipulation to be added to address the oral history of the community and use the information to develop a meaningful interpretation for the community center.**

Mr. Sackett volunteered to be the designee in the preparation of the memorandum for the Texas Historical Commission with the assistance of Commissioner Daniel Delahaye and Christina Valles, Senior Planner from Development Services.

**Motion made by Commissioner Sackett to approve the recommendation to prepare the memorandum to the Texas Historical Commission reference the Alamito Complex Hope VI Revitalization Plan, seconded by Commissioner Delahaye, and unanimously carried.**

6. Discussion and action to submit comments to the Texas Historical Commission on special permit #ZON05-00148 for a proposed T-Mobile cellular telecommunications facility on the corner of Oregon and River on property owned by the Women's Club of El Paso.

Commissioner Daniel Delahaye provided an update on this item. A letter addressing the proposed T-Mobile cellular telecommunications facility was provided to commission members for review.

Commissioner Sackett recommended changing the wording in the last paragraph of the letter to read "account its concerns in your review process."

There was public input on the letter.

**Motion made by Russell Sackett to accept the letter addressed to the Texas Historical Commission with the changes to the last paragraph, seconded by Hector de Santiago passed in full.**

7. Discussion and Action regarding proposed revisions to Title 20 as recommended by the Building and Zoning Advisory Committee: Chapter 20.67 Historic Landmark Preservation, and related revisions to Title 2 (Administration) and Title 3 (Revenue and Finance).

Christina Valles, Senior Planner gave an update on the proposed revisions.

Kimberly Forsyth, Senior Planner informed the commission that the revised ordinance was tentatively scheduled for council introduction on May 9, 2006, public hearing on May 30, 2006.

### **Ordinance Amending Title 3**

There was discussion by the commission on the archeology portion of Title 3.

Cindy Crosby, Assistant City Attorney informed the commission that they used the wording for the tax exemption directly from state law. The City has the authority to apply the tax exemption to archeological sites for historically significant sites. If the commission feels the standards are not in the ordinance as currently written, the commission may recommend that it be stricken from the draft.

**Motion was made by Russell Sackett to strike out the archeological wording from the ordinance draft. Hector de Santiago seconded the motion. Two commission members voted in favor of the motion; Daniel Delahaye and Carla Newman, and two voted against the motion, Russell Sackett and Hector de Santiago. Chair Daphne Hamilton broke the tie by voting against the motion. Motion fails.**

Mr. John Karr spoke out suggesting that this item be postponed until the Historic Preservation Officer is hired.

Christina Valles, Senior Planner recommended the commission to go over each ordinance individually.

There was discussion on the revisions not going to City Council for approval until the Historic Preservation Officer has an opportunity to comment.

Yolanda Alameda, Director of Museum and Cultural Affairs advised it might be a six to eight week process to hire a Historic Preservation Officer.

Christina Valles, Senior Planner recommended that the review and action be made on the ordinance draft separately.

### **Ordinance amending Title 20**

The commission discussed ordinance amending Title 20.

Recommendation was made to change the wording in the paragraph to "archeological significance, and which may have within its boundaries other noncontributing buildings or structures striking out the rest of the phrase in Section 20.67.020 Definitions, item 23/24, page 5.

Recommendation was made to strike out in its entirety Item 35/34, multiple resource historic district.

The commission discussed 20.67.110 Enforcement

A recommendation was made to include wording for the Historic Preservation Officer to work with the City's Building Official to assure that Administrative Review is complied with.

**Motion made by Carla Newman to approve the draft ordinance amendment, Title 20, Chapter 20.67 as recommended with the comments regarding the language of historic district on Item 23 under definitions, striking out multiple resource historic district from the definitions, and not mentioned in the draft elsewhere and altering the language of 20.67.110 Enforcement to include that it is the Historic Preservation Officer's duty to assure compliance and discuss with the City's Building Official, seconded by Hector De Santiago, and unanimously carried.**

### **Ordinance amending Title 2**

**Motion made by Hector de Santiago to approve the ordinance amending Title 2 draft as recommended, seconded by Carla Newman, and unanimously carried.**

### **Ordinance amending Title 3**

The commission discussed ordinance amending Title 3. Issues addressed included interior and exterior work on a historic property to qualify for tax abatement on the property.

Recommendation was made for the Historic Preservation Officer to inspect the property annually during the period of tax abatement. The abatement would stop if work were done on the property out of compliance with the Certificate of Appropriateness. Recommendation was made for the Historic Landmark Commission to make the final decision to determine if the property was not in compliance.

**Motion made by Daniel Delahaye to approve the ordinance amending Title 3 draft recommendation with the following changes to be included in the ordinance amendment; wording stating that credit dies with non-compliance; annual review done by the Historic Preservation Officer, and with the final decision on compliance being made by the Historic Landmark Commission, seconded by Hector de Santiago, and unanimously carried.**

Commissioner Sackett left at 5:33 p.m.

1. May 19, 2006 deadline for HLC members to request for agenda items to be scheduled for the June 5, 2006 meeting.
2. Feedback from HLC members and general public on compliance
  1. Austin Terrace Historic District

2. Chihuahuita Historic District
3. Downtown Historic District
4. Magoffin Heights Historic District
5. Manhattan Heights Historic District
6. Mission Trail Historic Corridor and District
7. San Francisco Historic District
8. Sunset Heights Historic District
9. Ysleta Historic District
10. Independent Historic Structures

3. **Building Permits & Inspections Division Report, Joel Guzman**

4. **Planning Division Report, Christina Valles**

8. Approval of the April 17, 2006 meeting minutes.

Discussion and action for items 1 thru 4 and item 8 will be at the May 15, 2006 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

***Nancy M. Spencer***  
**Secretary**