

# CITY OF BENSON

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

### SATURDAY, May 17, 2014 – 9:00 A.M.

A meeting of the Benson Historic Preservation Commission was held on  
Saturday, May 17, 2014 at 9:00 A.M.  
at the Benson City Hall,  
120 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Benson, AZ 85602

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Vicki L. Vivian, CMC, City Clerk

### MINUTES

Chair Ruth Wilson opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Ruth Wilson, Joanne Sturgeon, Phyllis Little, Alwine Frega, Gerry Thompson, and Liz Brenner.

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Michelle Johnson from the City of Benson was present, as was Leo O'Farrell from the Benson Clean and Beautiful Committee.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Minutes of the March 15, Meeting were approved, as amended. Vote 6-0.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Ruth Wilson reported there is a grant now open for the 4<sup>th</sup> street properties to be placed on the historic register, but the cut off date is July 11, 2014. Our remaining budget expires June 30, 2014, giving us little time to apply for the grant and use our remaining budget money. Michelle Johnson explained the City will not have adequate money in their budget to fund the Historic Commission in fiscal year 2014. Ruth stated she will submit the grant request anyway.
2. Hotel Arnold Report: No change except for a new coat of gray wash paint. The property remains for sale.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Apache Park Project: No grants available. Ruth stated although the architect and engineer plans have expired they merely need to be upgraded, not replaced. at this time.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Review of potential historic properties for nominations and property survey bids. Ruth stated she will go with the only bid we received, i.e., \$3200 from Ralph Comey.
2. Review and approve paint colors for Barrio properties owned by Gus Figueroa. Gus Figueroa was not present so no review was done.
3. Review and approve paint colors for Benson Museum. Gerry Thompson stated that the Museum is not yet ready to choose colors or to paint.
4. Review of City Council consideration of new member. Gerry Thompson was approved by the City Council at the meeting of May 12, 2014.
5. Grant availability for State Conference in June for potential attendees. No one has applied so no one is likely to attend.
6. Review of Hi-Wo Barrio property situation. The house has been demolished so no further

action on our part. Alwine stated that she was able to get four of the original Hi Wo windows and donated them to the museum. She also wrote a thank you note to the pastor of the Catholic Church for giving us the windows.

7. Leo O' Farrell from Benson Clean and Beautiful presentation. Leo passed out a membership application to all the commission members and gave a little history of his background and involvement in public affairs. He is involved in with the murals being painted in the city of Benson and is a strong advocate for the increase of tourism, and new business, and believes the murals impact that increase. He suggested that the Friends of the Library, the Benson Museum, the Historic Commission, the Arts Council and Benson Clean and Beautiful all meet on Wednesday May 21, 2014 at the museum to pool our ideas and resources. Cheryl Mammano from the museum will chair the meeting. Liz Brenner noted that the history of Benson is what brings people here.

8. Meeting Scheduling. Ruth stated the next meeting would be scheduled for July 19, 2014, unless we have a need for a Special Meeting regarding the plaque for the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Cemetery.

**ADJOURNED:** Ruth Wilson called the meeting to a close at 9:40 a.m.