

CITY OF BENSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION SATURDAY JULY 16, 2016 – 9:00 A.M.

A meeting of the Benson Historic Preservation Commission was held on
Saturday, July 16, 2016 at 9:00 A.M.
at the Benson City Hall,
120 W. 6th Street, Benson, AZ 85602

Vicki L. Vivian, CMC, City Clerk

MINUTES

Chair Ruth Wilson opened the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Members present: Ruth Wilson, Joanne Sturgeon, Phyllis Little, Irma Bernal, Gerry Thomson, Gus Figueroa, Michelle Johnson from the City

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

1. No one from the public present.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- The Minutes of the May 21, 2016. Meeting minutes were approved. Vote 5-0, Abstained
- 1.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Survey of 4th St. Properties: Ruth stated that she had submitted the grant application to the State for the 4th Street properties to be submitted to the National Register. She stated we need a Resolution from the City for approval of the grant application after the Council reviews the submission. Michelle Johnson advised that Mr. Comey's bid has not yet been received by the City of Benson, and must be received by Tuesday, July 19. Ruth will be in touch with Mr. Comey.

Ruth advised that Comey's bid was for \$4000, and added the State would pay \$2,400, and the City's share would be \$1,600 if the State and the City both approved the grant application. She noted that our 2016 budget from the City of \$1000 would pay part, but we'd have to find the remaining \$600 elsewhere. Hopefully we can get that additional amount from the City from another line item.

Michelle Johnson mentioned that some people are concerned about the effect the new Village at Vigneto might have on downtown businesses. They are mulling over a potential revitalization plan for downtown, but are concerned that such a plan may have a detrimental effect on the work we are doing to get these buildings on the National Historic Register. Discussion followed.

2. Hotel Arnold update: Cindy Allen continues to work on the houses and to clean up the property.
3. Hi Wo Store update: Michelle Johnson advised that the owner(s) inquired about permits needed if they decide to demolish the Hi Wo building. She stated the cost of bringing it up to date would be several hundred thousand dollars. No application has been made for demolition at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Apache Park Project
 - a. The Benson Clean & Beautiful are considering a sock hop fund raiser to benefit their murals projects and would like to again start working with the Commission to get the Apache Park project started with other groups also coordinating their efforts. Members will need to start attending meetings with this organization soon.
 - b. The Historical Preservation Commission continues to explore funding for the Apache Park project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Commission Membership: Michelle Johnson confirmed renewal of Phyllis Little and Gerry Thomson memberships. Irma Bernal needs to reapply soon.
2. Meeting scheduling. Ruth stated the next regular meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2016.

WORK SESSION:

1. Michelle Johnson addressed the revision of Historical Preservation Commission Bi-laws & Zoning laws, under Section 24 of the City of Benson Zoning Regulations. Meetings will be scheduled in the near future to address this issue and make changes as needed.

ADJOURNED: Ruth Wilson called the meeting to a close at 10:44 a.m.