City Hall, 495 S. Main St.
Council Chambers

May 26, 2021
12:00 PM

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Minutes:
CHAIR STOLDAL called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Before asking for the Roll Call, CHAIR STOLDAL welcomed COMMISSIONER GILLESPIE, ex-officio member representing Nevada State Museum. The Chair provided some details on her impressive professional background, including as Executive Director of the New Mexico Museum, President of Operations at the Turtle Bay Exploration Park in Redding, California, and Director of Education at SeaWorld in Florida. She is now residing in Southern Nevada and has been in private practice, consulting with museums and other cultural organizations on strategic and business planning. COMMISSIONER GILLESPIE expressed her appreciation.

PRESENT: CHAIR STOLDAL and COMMISSIONERS LARIME, LeVINE, BECK, HOTCHKISS (via teleconference), SERFAS, COSGROVE, PALENCAR, PALACIOS, LONG, MOODY, GILLESPIE (ex-officio member and Nevada State Museum Designee) and SIEBRANDT (ex-officio member)

ALSO PRESENT: SETH FLOYD, Director of Community Development, PHILIP BYRNES, Deputy City Attorney, and GABRIELA PORTILLO-BRENNER, Deputy City Clerk

2. **Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law**

Minutes:
ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations in accordance with the State of Nevada Executive Department Declaration of Emergency Directive 006: The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov and The Nevada Public Notice Website notice.nv.gov.

3. **Public Comment:** Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:
Regarding Item 5 (21-0268-HPC1), JEFF ALBERT, North Las Vegas resident, said that he started research approximately six years ago on local history. He commented that DENNIS McBRIDE has done a wonderful job of directing the museum, and looks forward to working with COMMISSIONER GILLESPIE. He expressed appreciation for CLAYTEE WHITE'S work with the Oral History project, and reminisced about all the work of ELIZABETH WARREN, who was very helpful to him during his research on Kiel Ranch, and even provided him with photos and guidance. Fortunately, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Research Library has access to her extensive files, because she was involved with several historic projects, among them are the Spanish Trails and the Mormon Fort. He said she will be missed greatly.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of April 28, 2021

Motion made by Colleen M. Beck to Approve

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 0

For-Robert Stoldal, Jack LeVine, Colleen M. Beck, Donald Hotchkiss, Richard Serfas, Sondra Cosgrove, Michelle Larime, Mia Palencar, Craig Palacios, Rhonda Long, Todd Moody; Did Not Vote-Diane Siebrandt, Nevada State Museum Designee;

5. **21-0268-HPC1 -** Report by the Department of Planning regarding the presentation of the 2021 Historic Preservation Awards

Minutes:
COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT explained the process for presenting the awards, mentioned the categories (Bricks and Mortar, Preservation Education, Advocacy and Career Achievement) being awarded and asked the recipients to remain until all the awards were presented for a group photo with the Commissioners.

In an effort to move forward smoother, CHAIR STOLDAL asked COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT to pass out the awards at the podium. The Chair announced that this is the 48th Anniversary of the United States Congress creating Historic Preservation Week, which then expanded to Historic Preservation Month. Las Vegas has celebrated the founding of the community in many ways since 1905. Through the Mayor and City Council, the City has been at the forefront of historic preservation, in part, through the creation of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial. In 2005, a year-long celebration of the community's 100th birthday took place. This provided a new foundation to preserve the diverse and unique heritage of Las Vegas. This year's celebration by the City of Las Vegas included the Las Vegas Days Parade and the release of the third documentary in a series focusing approximately on each decade, starting with 1905 to 1920, the 1920's and the premiere of the 1930's documentary on May 15, 2021. Through the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, the City gave the initial approval to produce two additional film series for the 1940's and the 1950's. He noted that the first documentary had more than three million views on YouTube alone.

The Chair continued and said that another way the City celebrates Historic Preservation Month is through its excellent Historic Preservation Award program. This year marks the 18th year of the City's HPC honoring individuals and organizations who have continued preserving the historic architecture on cultural resources in Las Vegas, as well as those whose efforts promote historic preservation awareness and education. Through a nomination process, the HPC has selected nine very deserving recipients, and he extended his congratulations to all of them on behalf of the Commissioners.

COMMISSIONER LARIME, CHAIR STOLDAL and COMMISSIONER BECK alternated in announcing the award recipients. The Chair noted that one of the challenges in making the presentations is to narrow down into two sentences the resumes and accomplishments of the recipients.

COMMISSIONER LARIME announced the following award recipients:

Bricks and Mortar Category – KAMRAN FOULAD (FOULADBAKHSH) for the conversion of the former Auto Garage, located at 1327 South Main Street, into Nevada Brew Works in the Las Vegas Downtown Arts District, which is an innovative adaptive re-use that embodies the spirit of preservation and urban regeneration.

Preservation Education Category – TINA BALINT for her role as a Nevada Preservation Foundation volunteer, supporting and promoting educational programs and projects that focus on preserving the history of the City of Las Vegas. MS. BALINT'S skills as a researcher of historic areas for tours such as the McWilliams and Clark's Townsite and Seeing Stars, as well as her talents as a tour guide are invaluable contributions to preservation education efforts throughout the city. She added that MS. BALINT was an early volunteer with the Neon Museum and brought many of those skills to the Nevada Preservation Foundation.

Preservation Education Category – MITCH COHEN for his role as a Nevada Preservation Foundation volunteer, supporting and promoting educational programs and efforts, including research for tours of the McWilliams and Clark's Townsite and Woodlawn Cemetery. MR. COHEN brings many talents as a tour guide and his invaluable contribution to preservation and education efforts throughout the city. MR. COHEN is also an early volunteer and an ongoing member of the Neon Museum.

Preservation Education Category – AMY RAYMER for her role as a Nevada Preservation Foundation volunteer and in supporting and promoting educational programs and projects focusing on preserving the history of the City of Las Vegas. MS. RAYMER'S skills as a historic researcher have been used on tours such as for Mid-Mod

Mix Up, John S. Park and McNeil Neighborhood. Her talents as a tour guide are invaluable, and she is also an early volunteer with the Neon Museum.

CHAIR STOLDAL announced the following award recipients:

Preservation Education Category – DR. DAVID SCHWARTZ for his role as a key figure in educating students at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, as well as the general public about the history of gaming in Las Vegas and Southern Nevada, and not only for his work as an author, editor, lecturer and media commentator, but also as advisor to many committees and boards. The Chair added that the information contained in books DR. SCHWARTZ writes can be trusted. He said he is looking forward to the next book.

Career Achievement Category – CLAYTEE WHITE for her dedication over decades to preserve the history of Las Vegas by collecting, documenting and preserving oral history from the diverse communities who call Las Vegas home. MS. WHITE'S role as an advocate and advisor on numerous committees and boards and her 13 years on the HPC indicate her commitment to protecting Las Vegas' past.

Career Achievement Category – DENNIS McBRIDE for his decades of dedicated work to preserve the historic resources of Las Vegas, Southern Nevada and Boulder City, including his J. FLORIAN MITCHELL photographic collection, nine years as director of the Nevada State Museum in Las Vegas and his many publications, from Building Hoover Dam to Out of the Neon Closet: Queer Community in the Silver State.

COMMISSIONER BECK announced the following award recipients:

Advocacy Category – DR. ELIZABETH VON TILL WARREN for her tireless efforts for more than three decades in advocating for the preservation of historic places in Las Vegas, including Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort, Las Vegas Springs Archeological site, Historic Fifth Street School, Las Vegas High School and Huntridge Theater. DR. WARREN'S dedication to champion preservation and conservation is highly commended. As the award was being presented posthumously to her family, DR. WARREN'S children, JONATHAN and EMILY WARREN, collected on her behalf.

Advocacy Category – DR. CLAUDE NELSON WARREN for his more than three decades in archeological research efforts, documenting and preserving historic places in Las Vegas, including the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort, Helen Stewart Cemetery and Las Vegas Springs. DR. WARREN'S unwavering advocacy and defense of these sites saved them from urban encroachment, for which he is highly commended. In the absence of DR. WARREN, his children, JONATHAN and EMILY WARREN, collected on his behalf.

COMMISSIONER BECK added that in the 1970's, the Warrens started to preserve important archeological sites and other structures in Las Vegas. They developed the early preservation groups that have evolved and exist today. The community owes them a great debt for their foresight and going against the odds and politics to get things done. Their tenacity throughout the years has contributed to a level most people do not realize.

See Item 3 for related discussion.

6. **21-0312-HPC1 -** Discussion for possible action regarding the approval of an application to designate the Huntridge Theater, located at 1208 East Charleston Boulevard (APN 162-02-110-016), C 2 (General Commercial) Zone, on the City of Las Vegas Historic Property Register as a Historic Site - Ward 3 (Diaz)

Minutes:
COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT explained that this matter was presented at the previous meeting to give the Commissioners 30 days to review the application. CHAIR STOLDAL said the application was very detailed. COMMISSIONER LeVINE thanked JOHN CURRAN, who was present on behalf of Dapper Companies, for the tour, noting that he had never been inside the building. He was happy the property is now in the hands of people who care and who will get the renovations done. He expressed his full support.

COMMISSIONER SERFAS agreed with the aforementioned comments and added that he was pleased to see adaptive re-use to invigorate the site.

COMMISSIONER PALENCAR asked for a timeline for start of construction. MR. CURRAN said that no one is more eager than they are to start construction, but he indicated that it is going to take time, and the operators will drive the design, because they will be the ones using it. They are already in discussions with some operators, but with their interest in pursuing tax credits, the process is going to take even longer. He envisions active construction within two years, noting that they are making significant investments.

COMMISSIONER PALENCAR understood but asserted her concerns regarding security for the exterior, which she opined does not look very nice, especially with homeless individuals on the site. MR. CURRAN assured her that they hired a company to provide drive-by security. They have run into issues with people selling things on the lot and sellers claiming they obtained permission, which is not true. He persisted that they are cleaning it up and placed a temporary message on the marquis, to follow the restoration at theHuntridge.com.

COMMISSIONER BECK said she was approached from people in disbelief and wanting to know if it is true that the Huntridge Theater is finally going to be added to the local register; they are so excited about it. People in the community have been waiting for a long time, and she is appreciative of the support of the owners in getting it done. MR. CURRAN added that they could not have done it without the help of the City of Las Vegas. He mentioned that they were able to offer some tours, and one of them was attended by former SENATOR RICHARD BRYAN, who spoke of his first matinee at the Huntridge Theater, and it was very special to hear his stories.

CHAIR STOLDAL stated that as part of the agreement with the State of Nevada, the owner agreed to provide quarterly reports on the construction, which he would greatly appreciate. The Chair asked if any demolition is expected, and MR. CURRAN said he would not want to cause alarm by using the term demolition, but he said there is more cleanup involved, and it is looking better already.

Given that COMMISSIONER LONG requested pictures of conceptual renderings, photos as part of a previous PowerPoint presentation were shown and submitted for this meeting's record. The Commissioner also asked if the theater would be kept or made into a concert hall or both, and MR. CURRAN indicated they are planning for a performing arts theater. CHAIR STOLDAL pointed out that there is no requirement to have a theater. MR. CURRAN added that they have to preserve the theater space but not necessarily as a theater. However, they intend to do as such.

COMMISSIONER MOODY said the tour was full, and he was very excited about the renovation and adding the site to the historic register.

CHAIR STOLDAL asked if there would be future opportunities for the Commissioners to attend, given that they all could not attend due to quorum limitations. MR. CURRAN said he would be happy to accommodate them.

Motion made by Jack LeVine to Approve

Passed For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 0

For-Robert Stoldal, Jack LeVine, Colleen M. Beck, Donald Hotchkiss, Richard Serfas, Sondra Cosgrove, Michelle Larime, Mia Palencar, Craig Palacios, Rhonda Long, Todd Moody; Did Not Vote-Diane Siebrandt, Nevada State Museum Designee;

7. **21-0269-HPC1 -** Report by the Department of Planning regarding Director's updates

Minutes:
SETH FLOYD, Community Development Director, was very pleased that the Huntridge Theater was approved for addition to the historic register under his tenure. He mentioned that the new master plan was working its way through the process for approval by the City Council, and he expressed his awareness of several sections in the plan regarding historic preservation, which is of great interest to the Historic Preservation Commission, and he is very excited about it.

8. **21-0270-HPC1 -** Report by the Department of Planning regarding Project Update List

Minutes:
COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, to provide updates.

Las Vegas High School National Register of Historic Places – the documentation for Frazier Hall is still with the Keeper of the Register in Washington, D.C.

Las Vegas High School National Register of Historic Places – the draft for the District Listing is due at the Historic Preservation Commission meeting in July.

Survey Catalog Grant – the draft is due at the Historic Preservation Commission meeting in June, and the consultant will attend to provide an update.

Strategic Outreach – this effort is moving forward slowly, but it is still in progress.

City of Las Vegas: The Thirties Film Premiere – the event was very successful and attended by COMMISSIONER LeVINE. A cake was made with a recipe from the 1920's, and it is called The Poor Man's Cake. Simultaneously, the film was released on KCLV Channel 2, YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. As of Monday, May 24, 2021, there were already almost 10,000 views, which speaks to the interest. Hopefully, the next two parts will be approved, and a premiere for Part IV can be held later.

Loan to Neon Museum and NPF (Nevada Preservation Foundation) Plaque for the Plaza – the Blue Angel wand, halo and back panel were pieces left from the renovation and installation (at Eastern Avenue and Charleston Boulevard) of the Blue Angel sign, which was done through a grant from the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial. Given that the sign was restored to the 1950's rendition, the remaining pieces were in her office in uncurated condition. The City was able to negotiate a loan of the pieces to the Neon Museum for 10 years to eventually restore and put on display. The Commissioners will be advised once the restoration is completed. Additionally, a plaque was awarded to the Plaza for its 50-year anniversary, for which MAYOR GOODMAN was in attendance.

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT reminded the Commissioners to submit their list of 11 most endangered sites by June 24, 2021, and she said a sample form was supplied to all the Commissioners (Slide 4).

COMMISSIONER BECK said she really enjoyed the reverse Las Vegas Days Parade, and it was a lot of fun. COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT said she heard a lot of positive feedback and added that she hopes a traditional parade can be held next year.

9. **21-0271-HPC1 -** Report by the Department of Planning regarding historic and archaeological resources in local media

Minutes:
COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT referenced the article links provided in the backup, noting some of them are old due to having to submit everything in advance to meet the agenda deadlines. She highlighted the following articles of interest: the Pleistocene fossils found near Floyd Lamb Park; the discussion between CHAIR GOODMAN and COMMISSIONER CREAR, of the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial, on KNPR (Nevada Public Radio) about creating a Las Vegas Museum; media coverage of the Las Vegas Days Parade and the premiere of Part III of the Documentary Film Series, and an interesting article about a historic cannonball that was returned.

CHAIR STOLDAL said there was an interesting story everyone should read in the May 26, 2021 Las Vegas Sun newspaper about a presentation by SUE FAWN CHUNG and her work.

10. **21-00273-HPC1 -** Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items by the Historic Preservation Commission. Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual Commission Members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not any such proposed item(s) is/are within the purview of the Commission and/or whether such proposed item(s) shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken regarding the proposal.

Minutes:
CHAIR STOLDAL asked if the Commissioners had any suggestions on topics for discussion on a future agenda.

COMMISSIONER PALENCAR asked about the storage of the trees removed from the medians along Las Vegas Boulevard, and COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT replied that she would look into it and report back in June. Additionally, COMMISSIONER LARIME asked for an update on a project involving an interpretation along Las Vegas Boulevard that was to be done by Cultural Affairs in conjunction with the Historic Preservation Commission. COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT advised that she would look into that as well.

CHAIR STOLDAL asked for a presentation by BRAD JERBIC on Project Enchilada, similar to the one made to the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial.

11. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission. No subject may be acted upon by the Commission unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion on any single subject, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:
None.

12. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Gabriela Portillo-Brenner, Deputy City Clerk

_____
Diane Siebrandt, Historic Preservation Officer

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE OF NEVADA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 006
The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov
and
The Nevada Public Notice Website – notice.nv.gov