



Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and asked for the Roll Call.

PRESENT: CHAIR STOLDAL and COMMISSIONERS LeVINE, HOTCHKISS (via teleconference at 12:02 p.m. and excused at 1:09 p.m.), SERFAS (excused until 12:02 p.m.), PALACIOS, MOODY (via teleconference and excused at 12:59 p.m.), PURDUE, ROBERTS, GILLESPIE (ex-officio member and Nevada State Museum Designee) and SIEBRANDT (ex-officio member)

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS LARIME, BECK and COSGROVE

ALSO PRESENT: SETH FLOYD, Community Development Department Director; MICHAEL HOWE, Planning Project Manager; REBECCA WOLFSON, Deputy City Attorney II; and GABRIELA PORTILLO-BRENNER, Deputy City Clerk

NOTE: Ex-officio representatives are non-voting Members.

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 noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; 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:

None.

4. Chair's announcement relative to the Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL announced that he had nothing to share.

5. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of February 22, 2023

Motion made by Cheryl Purdue to Approve

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 3

For-Robert Stoldal, Jack LeVine, Donald Hotchkiss, Richard Serfas, Craig Palacios, Todd Moody, Cheryl Purdue, Daniel Roberts; Did Not Vote-Diane Siebrandt, Nevada State Museum Designee; Excused-Colleen M. Beck, Michelle Larime, Sondra Cosgrove;

6. **22-0688-HPC1 - ABEYANCE ITEM** - Discussion for possible action regarding an application to designate the Mission Linen Building, located at 1001 South First Street, C-2 (Generation Commercial) Zone, on the City of Las Vegas Historic Property Register as a historic site - Ward 3 (Diaz)

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT commented that the applicant requested an abeyance again to allow the historic preservation specialist he hired to complete a report, which will be added as backup documentation to the meeting on May 24, 2023.

CHAIR STOLDAL thought the applicant was requesting the property's addition to the listing of historic places and for the Historic Preservation Commission's approval of the design. COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT clarified that the item pertained only to a request to list the property on the historic register, and the Chair confirmed this.

Motion made by Richard Serfas to Hold in Abeyance to 5/24/2023

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 3

For-Robert Stoldal, Jack LeVine, Donald Hotchkiss, Richard Serfas, Craig Palacios, Todd Moody, Cheryl Purdue, Daniel Roberts; Did Not Vote-Diane Siebrandt, Nevada State Museum Designee; Excused-Colleen M. Beck, Michelle Larime, Sondra Cosgrove;

7. **23-0124-HPC1** - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of funding in the amount of \$18,500 for consultation services by Nuwu Art, LLC for a land acknowledgment ceremony for the Centennial Celebration of the Historic Westside School, located at 330 West Washington Avenue - Ward 5 (Crear)

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT provided some background on this matter. In observation of the 100th anniversary of the Historic Westside School this year, a celebration will be held on September 30, 2023. This occasion will include representatives from various departments, as well as representatives from the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, the Westside School Alumni Association, the Clark County School District and the Department of Public Safety. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department will work with representatives on the parade, and COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT will work with representatives from the Paiute Tribe on an opening ceremony that will include a land acknowledgment ceremony. She is still finalizing the details, but the event will take place all day, with the parade ending at the Westside School and the opening ceremony including singers and dancers from various tribes. This matter pertains to funding needed to consult with Nuwu Art to help organize the opening ceremony.

FAWN DOUGLAS, Nuwu Art, introduced herself in her native language and went over her background from Slide 2 of the PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record. She spoke of her extensive involvement with the American Indian Alliance and the Native American Alumni Club at UNLV (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) in addition to being a former Councilwoman for the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe for three terms. She taught an Introduction to Native Studies course at UNLV and recently earned her NFA (Nevada Faculty Alliance) classification from UNLV. She welcomed the opportunity to help organize the ceremony, which she regards as an educational opportunity for the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, which is one of the smallest tribes in North America, to promote their culture.

Continuing with the presentation, MS. DOUGLAS commented that the Southern Paiute Tribe is not limited to Southern Nevada and spans to Utah, Arizona and Southern California. She remarked that her art connects to her people and their lands and every piece tells a story. Being of mixed Native Indian heritage, she includes other tribes in her art. She has been very involved in learning about Native American dance and in learning about other tribes' heritages.

The Paiute Tribe is known for basket weaving, and the HELEN J. STEWART collection has the largest collection of Southern Paiute baskets in the world. In addition to basket weaving, MS. DOUGLAS said she is a painter, storyteller, performer and artist. As a cultural engagement specialist, she has created land acknowledgments and she not only works locally with Meow Wolf at Omega Mart, but also with the Denver Conversion Station, the Santa Fe House of Eternal Return and in the summer, in Grapevine, Texas. Part of her job includes building community connections to indigenous groups in different cities.

What can people expect of the indigenous portion at the opening ceremony? To MS. DOUGLAS' knowledge, the Historic Westside School was originally built for the local Paiute students, so she wants to talk about its original history because it is important to understand the past in order to walk forward together. A land acknowledgment is a way of recognizing the history of a land and promoting a path to walk together. She intends to talk about education and the three groups important to the event, as well as introduce key leaders. She mentioned some of the clothing and accessory items worn for various events, including for social dances. In addition to having dancers and singers perform from the Paiute Tribe and the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe from Laughlin, Nevada, the Calpulli Tlatelolco, Danza Azteca group will dance as well. Three different dance groups will perform because children from the Paiute Tribe and Hispanic groups attended the school.

Lastly, MS. DOUGLAS reviewed the budget line items on Slide 24, noting that the process includes checks going through her business to pay the participants. The opening ceremony includes multiple details, including the stage for the dancers. She emphasized that everyone is excited about attending a parade. Should anyone have any questions, she can be reached at Nuwart.com.

CHAIR STOLDAL verified that the funding request is \$18,500 for services.

COMMISSIONER PURDUE felt the proposed budget is too high for local groups that are not considered professional dancers. MS. DOUGLAS clarified that they are professional dancers.

See Item 8 for related discussion.

Motion made by Daniel Roberts to Approve

Passed For: 6; Against: 2; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 3

For-Robert Stoldal, Jack LeVine, Richard Serfas, Craig Palacios, Todd Moody, Daniel Roberts; Against-Donald Hotchkiss, Cheryl Purdue; Did Not Vote-Diane Siebrandt, Nevada State Museum Designee; Excused-Colleen M. Beck, Michelle Larime, Sondra Cosgrove;

8. **23-0125-HPC1** - Discussion for possible action regarding approval of funding up to \$1,020 for the production of a cast bronze land acknowledgment plaque for the Centennial Celebration of the Historic Westside School, located at 330 West Washington Avenue - Ward 5 (Crear)

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT explained that this pertains to an additional cost for the plaque. The price is not final because she was working with FAWN DOUGLAS, Nuwu Art, on the language for the plaque. She anticipates the cost not to exceed \$1,020. The company that has produced other historical plaques for the Commission will be used for this project.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS asked if the cost included installation, to which COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT replied that the plaque would be given to the owners to install, with the assistance of the Public Works Department. Therefore, the cost is for production only and shipping from Pennsylvania. She added for CHAIR STOLDAL that the plaque would include a notation regarding the Commission's sponsorship.

CHAIR STOLDAL expressed confusion about the cost of consultation for the plaque, and COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT explained that she has to consult with MS. DOUGLAS on the final plaque verbiage. The Chair asked if the Commission had any say in that verbiage, noting that COMMISSIONER LARIME indicated to him that she is in favor of the plaque, as long as the Commission can have input on the language.

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT explained that the final language will be presented to the Commission for approval or denial, but it will not be able to recommend changes.

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT confirmed for COMMISSIONER PURDUE that the plaque is only for the land acknowledgment for the school and added for COMMISSIONER LeVINE that it should take approximately six weeks to receive the plaque.

See Item 7 for related discussion.

Motion made by Cheryl Purdue to Approve

Passed For: 8; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 2; Excused: 3

For-Robert Stoldal, Jack LeVine, Donald Hotchkiss, Richard Serfas, Craig Palacios, Todd Moody, Cheryl Purdue, Daniel Roberts; Did Not Vote-Diane Siebrandt, Nevada State Museum Designee; Excused-Colleen M. Beck, Michelle Larime, Sondra Cosgrove;

9. **23-0126-HPC1** - Final report by staff from The Neon Museum regarding the completion of the Boneyard Educational Panels, located at 770 Las Vegas Boulevard North and funded by the Historic Preservation Commission - Ward 5 (Crear)

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT said this project was completed and turned out very nicely.

AARON BERGER, Executive Director, and JENNIFER KLEVEN, Director of Advancement, The Neon Museum, were present and alternated in reviewing the PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record. MR. BERGER said it was wonderful to have the opportunity to report on how the Commission's funding helped this project.

Learning Objectives – The goal was to help visitors attain a sense of place by helping them better understand where the various neon signs at the Boneyard were previously located by providing a visual reference of Las Vegas' past and present, highlighting advances in sign technology and architecture and defining the term "Boneyard," which is a specific term unique to the sign industry.

Location and Original Panels – This slide showed a before-project image of the base of the Hard Rock Cafe Guitar individual panels, which included names of generous donors.

Timeline – This included conducting research and image selection, contracting with ABBIE REN, artist, and Hartlauer Signs, populating a QR (quick reference) code with interactive website links, training staff, removing donor panels, and installing new educational panels and lighting. Videos were shown of the installation and of people in attendance looking at the panels, but copies of the videos were not submitted for the record.

Social Media – The video of the new panels was posted on November 16, 2022, and they reached 4,391 people on Facebook for 81 engagements; 7,146 people on Instagram for 272 engagements; and 222 impressions on LinkedIn for 14 engagements.

QR Code and Website – QR codes were created to help monitor success by being able to see how interactive the piece was. A slider tool was added to the QR codes to enable exploration of all properties on Fremont Street. It is becoming popular with adults and children. The images talk about the past and present of the properties, making people aware of the history of the properties, including those people currently visiting Las Vegas.

Self Guided Tours – More visitors are staying longer and there is more family interaction. Parents are talking to their children about their experiences at the various properties. There were over 22,000 visitors between November 1, 2022 and February 28, 2023.

School Field Trips – These provide different-level engagements, and the children are able to see before and after images. The Hard Rock Café Guitar is becoming the number-one spot for photos and information.

Steam Saturdays – There were more than 600 participants from November 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023. The information on the panels is used for scavenger hunts and parents and children have fun with the online content. The staff emphasizes that steam is needed to build the signs.

Budget – Graphic design and artwork - \$3,800, printing - \$2,250 and installation and lighting - \$6,590 for a grand total of \$12,640, with \$2,640 absorbed by The Neon Museum given the grant amount of \$10,000.

COMMISSIONER GILLESPIE said the interactive images are impressive, especially with the connections to the past. She felt this was a fantastic project.

CHAIR STOLDAL asked how the outdoor signs are protected during rain, and MR. BERGER said the shows operate during rain or sunshine, but they do shut down when it rains hard. Their bigger issue with the signs is the wind. They provide umbrellas for rainy and hot summer days. MS. KLEVEN added that they use a unique coating on outdoor materials. MR. BERGER noted that the panels contain size comparisons to provide an idea of how large the signs were.

COMMISSIONER SERFAS commended MR. BERGER for such a great project and for their placemaking efforts. He was impressed with how people are being educated about the architecture of the signs as well.

MR. BERGER was grateful for the opportunity and the Commission's funding investment.

10. **23-0127-HPC1** - Report by the Community Development Department regarding nominations for the City of Las Vegas Eleven Most Endangered Historic Places List

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT reviewed the details of the properties on the subject list using a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, and submitted a list of late entries to be added to the list. This is a discussion item only; the Commissioners can vote on the final list at a later date.

The current list consists of the following 1) Huntridge Theatre – added on September 1, 2021 to the Las Vegas Historic Property Register; 2) Fremont Street Motor Courts – 1208 Fremont Street (Fremont Motel) – demolished January 3, 2023; 3) Old Las Vegas High School – entire campus added to the National Register of Historic Places on January 5, 2022; 4) Jackson Avenue (between H and B Streets) street improvements in progress; 5) McWilliams Townsite – Proposed mapping survey; 6) Reed Whipple Cultural Center – demolished on October 20, 2022; 7) El Portal Theater – no changes since last update; and no changes to 8) Wedding Chapels along Las Vegas Boulevard, Bridger Building, Moulin Rouge and Googie Commercial Buildings.

The recommended properties for addition include the following: Vegas Vic sign, Huntridge Circle Park, Mormon Fort, Binion Home, Morelli House, Huntridge Theatre, Frontier Fidelity Savings Building (841 East Charleston Boulevard), Pete Findlay Oldsmobile (Googie Buildings), El Portal Theater, Siegfried and Roy House, Cantrell's Cleaners (1015 East Charleston Boulevard), 2300 Western Avenue (Googie style gas station), historic neighborhoods and residential properties in the City of Las Vegas, LDS Chapel (501 South 9th Street), Super Cleaners (800 South Las Vegas Boulevard), Doña Maria's (910 South Las Vegas Boulevard) and the 1930's and 1940's custom homes on 7th, 8th and 9th Streets without significant alterations.

CHAIR STOLDAL explained that the list of 11 Most Endangered Historic Places was created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. States and cities use it throughout the country, but there are no restrictions as to how many properties can be on the City's list, although he would like to follow the Trust's pattern of 11. He asked that any comments regarding the list be submitted to COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT.

See Items 14 and 15 for related discussion.

11. **23-0128-HPC1** - Report by the Community Development Department regarding Director's updates

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT said SETH FLOYD, Community Development Director, had to leave but had nothing to report.

12. **23-0129-HPC1** - Report by the Community Development Department regarding Project Update List

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was submitted for the record, and reported that all projects are in progress. Two Commissioners volunteered to participate in the Helldorado Parade, which will be held Saturday, May 13, 2023, the same day as the film premiere of The City of Las Vegas: The Fifties at The Beverly Theater. She reminded everyone that the next meeting of the Commission would be held on April 12, 2023 instead of April 26, 2023 because the Council Chambers was not available.

Regarding COMMISSIONER MOODY'S question about putting the names of the Commissioners on the agendas, COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT said that would not be possible because there are too many boards and their memberships change frequently. With respect to the question about televising the Historic Preservation Commission meetings through KCLV Channel 2, that is not possible either; it is only done for Planning Commission, Redevelopment Agency and City Council meetings.

13. **23-0130-HPC1** - Report by the Community Development Department regarding historic and archaeological resources in local media

Minutes:

CHAIR STOLDAL asked if there were any questions.

14. **23-0131-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 the Commissioners if they had any suggestions for future items.

Regarding endangered buildings, COMMISSIONER ROBERTS said there are many properties in historic neighborhoods that are being improved for flipping without proper permitting, and their distinguishing architectural features are being altered. The City should take this very seriously because problems are being left for future buyers. CHAIR STOLDAL asked for a specific item for a future agenda. COMMISSIONER ROBERTS said he would like historic neighborhoods to be identified as threatened areas and to create timelines for them. COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT said the Commission is proactive through surveys being conducted and neighborhood meetings held in historic neighborhoods. If there is unpermitted work, there is no way of knowing about it unless it is reported, in which case the Code Enforcement Division is notified. CHAIR STOLDAL asked COMMISSIONER ROBERTS to draft an item and submit it to COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT for placement on a future agenda in order to continue the dialogue.

CHAIR STOLDAL asked to place an item on a future agenda as soon as possible to honor the Westside School, noting that the National Register of Historic Places nomination is outdated and should be updated with the important information. The Commission should fund an updated nomination in honor of the school.

15. **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:

Regarding his concern about historic properties being altered, COMMISSIONER ROBERTS said people in historic neighborhoods have tried to be proactive and report issues, but the Code Enforcement process is too slow. He suggested adding a layer to the Code Enforcement process to check if improvements are permitted in historic neighborhoods to ensure the protection of architectural features. CHAIR STOLDAL interjected that despite the challenges, the last neighborhood meeting that was held was very productive and informative. He is excited about the upcoming reports on the Charleston Heights Neighborhood, the east side and the west side. COMMISSIONER PALACIOS agreed and said he too would like an agenda item for further discussion, noting that he believes many of the issues stem from misinformation and the lack of information in historic neighborhoods, and he cited an example. He suggested sending out cards with information. COMMISSIONER SIEBRANDT commented that the City is being proactive and door hangers with information have been sent to all homes in historic neighborhoods as part of the Commission's Outreach program.

16. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



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 NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor