City of Colorado Springs

30 S. Nevada Ave., Suite 102

Meeting Minutes - Draft
Historic Preservation Board

Monday, March 4, 2024 | **4:30 PM** | **City Administration Building, 30 S Nevada Avenue, Suite 102**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: 6 - Chair Lowenberg, Board Member Musick, Board Member Baumgartner, Board Member Hines, Board Member Potter and Board Member Fitzsimmons

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Wardwell

2.A Approval of the Minutes

2.A. HPB 2236 Minutes for the February 5, 2024, Historic Preservation Board Meeting

Presenter:
Christine Lowenberg, Historic Preservation Board Meeting Chair

Attachments: HPB 2.5.24 minutes

Motion by Board Member Musick, seconded by Board Member Baumgartner, to approve the minutes for the February 5, 2024 Historic Preservation Board Meeting. The motion passed by a vote of 5:0.

Aye: 4 - Chair Lowenberg, Board Member Musick, Board Member Baumgartner and Board Member Hines

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Wardwell

Recused: 2 - Board Member Potter and Board Member Fitzsimmons

2.B. Changes to Agenda/Postponements

3. Communications

3.A. Cheryl Brown, President Historic Uptown Neighborhood – Introduction of Parkside District Project

Cheryl Brown discussed various aspects of a proposed historic overlay district in the Uptown neighborhood. She mentioned the importance of voluntary participation in such overlay districts and highlighted the need for property owners' agreement. Ms. Brown expressed concerns about potentially using police powers to enforce overlay participation and emphasized the importance of a thorough discussion among city staff, proponents, and the Preservation Board before taking any actions. She suggested a serious conversation about the project, including a collaborative effort with the Uptown neighborhood to develop a plan. Ms. Brown proposed deferring any immediate decisions, allowing time for meetings between city staff and the neighborhood, and ensuring a well-thought-out approach to the project.

She recommended scheduling a meeting to discuss the project's details and expressed a desire to do it the right way, emphasizing the need for careful planning and community involvement.

3.B. Bill Gray - Senior Planner, Planning + Neighborhood Services

Bill Gray, Senior Planner, expressed openness to keep in mind if one is interested in being chair or vice-chair for next month's election meeting, encouraging new faces and perspectives. He informed the board about CLG (Certified Local Government) training and educational opportunities, emphasizing the importance of maintaining CLG status. Mr. Gray suggested board members register for training and offered assistance if needed. He proposed a brief presentation by members on what they learned from training sessions. Mr. Gray also brought up the topic of historic context studies and offered to forward webinar recordings from Denver, Fort Collins, and another municipality on the subject. He highlighted the significance of context surveys in historic preservation and concluded his comments by moving on to the rest of the agenda.

4. Consent Calendar

5. Items Called Off Consent Calendar

6. Unfinished Business

7. New Business

8. Updates/Presentations

8.A. HPB Worksession - Historic Resource Survey Plan

Ron Sladek, president of Tatanka Historical Associates, began his comments by mentioning that he had met with the board online at the last meeting. He stated that he is working on the historic survey plan for Colorado Springs and some board members have already discussed various elements of the plan. Mr. Sladek shared some geographical details about the historic Uptown and pointed out notable properties along Mesa Road.

Mr. Sladek discussed historic resources, particularly residences and churches associated with the black community in Colorado Springs. Board members mentioned significant flooding along Shooks Run that affected whole neighborhoods, leaving only some homes in the upper and middle Shooks Run areas. They considered exploring areas like South of Platte and Academy with Asian markets and restaurants. Mr. Sladek expressed interest in researching the Vietnamese immigrant community in Colorado Springs, specifically around Academy and the airport area.

Mr. Sladek discussed various topics during their conversation. A board member inquired about the organization "Inside Out," wondering if it's a nonprofit that provides services to LGBTQ+ youth who may have been kicked out of their homes or need mental health support. They briefly touched on underrepresented groups, including Native Americans, etc. The idea of preserving sites related to historical events, such as an NFL game in the 1930s or 40s and Major League Baseball games at Spurgeon Field, was raised. It was emphasized to focus on the importance of considering athletics and significant events in the region's history. The discussion ended with Mr. Sladek expressing his intention to read up on General Colorado Springs history.

10. Adjourn