MINUTES OF THE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
ARCHAEOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE CLASSIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE
March 12, 2015

Hatton Hall at the Governor Benjamin B. Moeur House Campus
34 E. 7th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281
5:00 PM

Commission Present:
Korri Turner, Chair
Andrea Gregory
Scott Solilday

City Staff Present:
Billy Kiser, Graduate Intern
John Larsen Southard, Historic Preservation Officer

Meeting called to order at 5:10 p.m.

1. Elections

• Commissioner Solilday nominated Commissioner Turner for the position of chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gregory and passed with a vote of 3-0.

2. Call to Audience: Persons wishing to address the Subcommittee on any matter may do so at the discretion of the Chair. However, Arizona Open Meeting Law limits Subcommittee discussion to matters listed on the posted agenda. Other topics may be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

• No Reply

3. Overview of Tempe’s Archaeologically Sensitive Classification

• HPO: Ordinance calls for Archaeologically Sensitive-classified (“AS”) areas to be flagged in the City permitting system, but process is imperfect and these sites are not comprehensively flagged. Per the ordinance, applicants for permits should be advised of AS status if their property falls within that area.
• HPO: At present, HPO fully reliant on counter staff to inform permit applicants of AS status.
• HPO: Current inability to determine with precision if a property falls with an AS area

4. Discuss and Consider Subcommittee scope and work plan

• Subcommittee agrees on the need for AZSITE subscription and Tempe archaeological site shape files
• Should consider a ranking system for flagging AS sites based on levels of significance and sensitivity
• Discussion of current ordinance language regarding archaeology
• AS definitions in city ordinance need to be rewritten for specificity and clarity
• HPO should seek an archaeologist to assist with ordinance revisions, especially the language and definitional components
• Draft of Subcommittee suggestions to be written by HPO and, following Subcommittee approval, submitted to HPC for discussion and approval.
• A broad overview of subcommittee recommendations is as follows:
  1. To fulfill responsibilities outlined in the ordinance, HPO needs AZSITE access and shape files for AS areas in Tempe
  2. AZSITE data should be incorporated into City permitting system
  3. HPO should draft a handout to be given to customers seeking permits for projects on AS-classified parcels
• HPO should consult with the City of Phoenix HPO regarding their robust archaeological policies and recommendations
• Commissioner Gregory moved the HPO draft a report outlining the subcommittee’s recommendations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solliday and passed with a vote of 3-0.

5. Chair / Staff Updates

• No comments

Chair Turner adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

Prepared by: Billy Kiser, Graduate Intern
Reviewed by: John Larsen Southard, Senior Planner / Historic Preservation Officer

Korri Turner, Chair