



Fort Lowell Historic Zone Advisory Board
Monday, March 24, 2025, at 5:30 PM
San Pedro Chapel, Turner Building
Hybrid Meeting (In-person and Zoom)

Meeting Minutes/Legal Action Report

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Members present:

Mary Lou Fragomeni, Co-Chair

Daniel Hill

Margo Sackheim

City Staff present: Daniel Bursuck and Desiree Aranda (PDSD), Jasmine Chan (Parks & Recreation).

Guest(s) present: Elaine Hill

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by Co-Chair Mary Lou Fragomeni. Roll call completed and quorum confirmed.

2. Review and Approval of February 24, 2025 Draft Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes

Action Taken:

Motion to approve the minutes with one revision: to update the address noted as 5445 E. Fort Lowell to the correct address of 5425 W. Fort Lowell.

Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Replanting of Cottonwood Trees along Cottonwood Lane (Parks and Recreation) - Courtesy Review

Summary:

Staff Chan presented background on the upcoming tree plantings along Cottonwood Lane as a memorial to Judy Clinco. She shared the planting plan and announced that planting day is scheduled for April 22, 2025, at 8 a.m. The Historic Landscape Subcommittee (HLS) will review the proposal next.

Discussion was held. Advisory board members recommended that the Parks & Recreation Department investigate installing additional irrigation bubblers and trees to fill in empty sections

of Cottonwood Lane. Staff Chan stated she would look into the cost and feasibility of such a proposal, as well as cottonwoods in the right of way and the irrigation schedule. The advisory board stated they could receive the updates via email. No action was taken.

4. Discussion on Corbett Ditch and the Mesquite Bosque

Summary:

The advisory board brought up recent separate discussions about Corbett Ditch and Mesquite Bosque with the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation (THPF) and the Fort Lowell Homeowner's Association (HOA). There is a push from THPF to refurbish the Corbett Ditch and preserve the Mesquite Bosque. The area is very dry so there is also concern about fire from the HOA. There is a meeting set up in April with adjacent property owners to discuss how to preserve it. There was discussion about the health of the trees and bringing in an arborist and a hydrologist. A recent subcommittee was established to discuss how landscaping is treated in the Unified Development Code (UDC). The subcommittee raised concerns about a lack of regulating requirements related to landscaping and asked how to initiate a code change. Staff Bursuck explained that code changes would require Mayor & Council initiation, then M&C would direct staff to update the UDC.

5. Discussion of La Reunion and Fort Lowell Day

Summary:

The FLHZAB discussed La Reunion and Fort Lowell Day, a big event in the neighborhood and this year it was a lot of work, cost \$9,000, and was not very well attended. There were roughly 800-1200 people. Ideas discussed included disbanding the event, better promoting the event using avenues like social media, and seeing if the City can provide more support as it costs a lot of money to close the street. Other ideas brainstormed included self-guided tours, an app, audio tours, or printouts.

6. Nomination of New Members

Summary:

Potential members and the process for their nomination were discussed.

7. Call to the Audience

No public comments submitted or made during the meeting.

8. Staff Updates and Future Agenda Items – Information Only

Member Briggs asked for an update about the Fort Lowell Design Guidelines.

Dan introduced the City's new Historic Preservation Officer, Desiree Aranda, who greeted the advisory board and shared information about her background.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:53 p.m.