

Minutes
HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD MEETING
City Commission Room, City Hall
1101 Poyntz Avenue
Monday, December 19, 2022
4:00 p.m.

| Member | Present | Absent |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mick Charney | x | |
| Phil Anderson | x | |
| Jana Fallin | x | |
| Sara Fisher | x | |

Staff Present: Ben Chmiel, Senior Planner; John Adam, Assistant Director of Community Development; Alex Corrado, Planning Intern

Public Present: Michael Mecseri

1. MEETING OPENING

Chmiel called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M and confirmed a quorum, noting the Board lacked a Chair to preside over the meeting and a temporary Chair would need to be voted for. Charney moved to elect Anderson temporary chair with an agenda item for next meeting to elect a permanent chair and vice chair. Fallin seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Anderson opened the floor for any public comments on any subject not related to the current agenda. There were no comments, and the public comment period was closed.

There were no board member comments.

Chmiel stated that the minutes for the December 8, 2022 special meeting could not be approved as there were too few members in attendance from that meeting. Charney moved to approve the Minutes of the October 24, 2022 meeting. Fisher seconded. Charney pointed out some non-substantive errors in the minutes and Chmiel affirmed they would be corrected. Motion carried 4-0.

2. MAJOR REVIEWS

- 2.1.** 519 Houston Street Façade Modification. Action Required. Review proposal and determine if project meets the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Property. Presentation from Alex Corrado, Planning intern (file no. HRV-22-089)

Alex Corrado, Planning Intern, delivered the staff presentation to the board regarding the major review at 519 Houston. The historic property at 519 Houston Street is listed as the “Barney Martin House” in the KHRI. The property is within the Houston-Pierre Street Residential Historic District but is non-contributing. The applicants were seeking to build an addition onto their attic space. The presentation focused on Secretary of the Interior’s Standards 5 and 9, regarding

distinctive materials and new additions respectively, as especially pertinent to the case. Staff found that the proposal met the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Property as reviewed in accordance with K.S.A. 75-2724 and would not damage or destroy any historically significant property or historic character-defining features and recommended approval of the building permit associated with the work at 519 Houston Street.

Charney asked if the reason for the property's non-contributing status was due to the siding. Corrado confirmed this, stating that its KHRI profile mentioned the property could be contributing if the original siding was preserved underneath, but the owners do not know if that is the case.

Fisher asked for more details regarding the fish-scaled siding. Corrado explained that this siding is on the gable and is a character-defining feature of the property. It would be mimicked by the addition in the original style with similar building materials.

Michael Mecseri with Timber & Stone Architecture and Design, representing the applicant, came to the podium to answer questions from the board. Mecseri stated that the owner would like an additional bedroom and bathroom. Charney stated that he hoped the historic siding still existed underneath, and wished the applicants luck.

With no other questions from the board, Anderson opened the floor for public comment. With none, Anderson closed the public comment period.

Charney moved that the Board found the proposal met the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for treatment of historic property as reviewed in accordance with KSA 75-2724 and would not damage or destroy any historically significant property or historic character-defining features and recommended approval of the building permit associated with the work at 519 Houston Street. Fallin seconded. The vote was called and the motion carried 4-0.

3. UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

3.1. Staff Updates/Announcements

Chmiel stated that the Yuma Street Historic District was inducted onto the State register and had moved on to the National Parks Service for consideration. Charney added that it was on the pending list for the national register, and that they try to make a decision on approval in about 45 days.

3.2. Board Updates/Announcements

Fisher stated that she was not able to attend the 2022 Historic Summit which occurred in November at the Manhattan Public Library, and asked any members who attended about their impression. Charney stated that he was there and Tanner James had given a small presentation. Charney also mentioned that members of the public in attendance of today's meeting were also there. Anderson stated that he had also been there, and a good productive meeting.

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

4.1. January: CIP Requests

Chmiel stated that annually the Historic Resources Board will put together requests for the Capital Improvement Program projects. Chmiel stated he would bring forward previous year's recommendations and that if board members have any ideas, to bring them up at the January meeting to have them finalized for the February meeting.

4.2. Opportunity for discussion of including future agenda items.

Charney stated that he wanted to discuss the demolition of Ahearn Fieldhouse. He stated he wasn't sure about what the board could directly do, but that he did have ideas for indirect support such as knowledge preservation.

Chmiel stated that the structure is outside of the HRB's jurisdiction (being state-owned) and isn't listed on the historic register. Chmiel stated that the board has- in the past- written letters of recommendation or passed resolutions on buildings they have no jurisdiction over. Charney stated that he believes Ahearn deserves special attention and preservation. Chmiel stated that maybe some sort of open discussion with local historic groups might be beneficial. Fallin stated that she supported the discussion of this. Anderson stated that perhaps parts of the building could be taken and preserved, and he looked forward to this discussion.

Chmiel said he would add an agenda item for next meeting for a general discussion about the preservation and documentation of buildings.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Anderson adjourned the meeting at 4:33 pm. The next meeting will take place on Monday, January 23, 2023.