

Design and Review Board
Meeting Minutes for December 16, 2024 at 4:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all attendees prior to the Call to Order.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Harold Garcia, Chair, at 4:11 P.M.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present:

Rick Rubio: Present
Roland Medrano: Present
Harold Garcia: Present
Isaac Sandoval: Absent
Lorraine Garduño: Present
Lee Einer - Present

A quorum was established..

Others present: Pam Sandoval; Cindy Collins; Makahla Hapatat; Charles Ortiz, Community Development; Scott Zunker, Community Development

By Google Meets: Amtrak representatives: Nina Simonetti, Mario Quesada, Jared Tuk

Approval of Agenda: Lee Einer moved to approve the Agenda. Rick Rubio seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all voting in favor.

The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: Lorraine Garduño moved to approve the minutes. Rick Rubio seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all voting in favor.

The motion passed.

Public Comments:

No one signed up for public comments.

New Business:

Chairman Harold Garcia asked Scott Zunker, Community Development, to swear in all persons that would be presenting testimony during the hearing. Pamela Sandoval, Cindy Collins and Makahla Harapat were sworn in.

1. Conduct a public hearing regarding a Design & Review Board application by Pamela Sandoval at 223 Plaza Street for a new sign followed by consideration for approval of the application.

Lorraine Garduño moved to "Place the item on the Table for discussion". Rick Rubio seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all voting in favor.

The motion passed.

Charles Ortiz introduced the application to the Board and Pamela Sandoval stated that the sign was for Ability First Adults with Disabilities daytime activities. Chairman Garcia stated that the Board has photos of the sign in there packet. Chairman Garcia asked if the sign was already up and the answer was yes. Ms. Sandoval stated she was not aware that she had to come before the Board. Chairman Garcia asked if staff was aware of the sign being placed on the building. Mr. Ortiz stated that he was not aware until Mr. Rubio brought it up at the last meeting. Lorraine Garduño asked if permits were issued for the sign and the answer was no. Chairman Garcia expressed concern that Code Compliance was not catching these illegal activities within the City. Lee Einer asked if the Board had actually conducted a

public hearing? There was discussion regarding what does it mean to "Place on the Table", according to Lorraine Garduño it means that we are trying to discuss it right now, it doesn't mean that the Board isn't trying to take action on it. Chairman Garcia stated that the Board has to go through the Public Hearing process. Rick Rubio asked if there was anyone in attendance to oppose the application. The Chairman stated he was going to go on the guidance of Lorraine Garduño. Rick Rubio moved to approve the application. Roland Medrano seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken .

Lee Einer – Yes

Rick Rubio – Yes

Lorraine Garduño – Yes

Roland Medrano – Yes

Motion passed with all approving.

2. Conduct a public hearing regarding a Design & Review Board application by Amtrak ADA Stations Program at 500 Railroad Avenue for ADA compliant modifications followed by consideration for approval of the application.

Charles Ortiz stated that the representatives from Amtrak were attending by Google Meets. Charles Ortiz asked the Amtrak representatives to introduce themselves. Scott Zunker, Community Development, swore in the Amtrak representatives. Harold Garcia asked the Amtrak representatives to introduce their item for the applications. Nina Simonetti stated the program is aimed at bringing Amtrak's 500 plus stations into ADA compliance. She stated that Amtrak has a Federal Grant from the Federal Railroad Administration and the program is fully funded. Nina Simonetti explained all of the improvements to surfaces, lights, loading platform, handrails, cane rails around columns, and underground drainage that would be included in the project. Ms. Simonetti also stated that any existing brick that is removed will be palletize and given to the City of Las Vegas. There will be two signs added that will be printed with "Las Vegas Station".

Jared Tuk, Amtrak, talked about the Secretary of the Interior standards for rehabilitation Mr. Tuk stated that they did consult with New Mexico SHPO and they found no adverse effect from the project.

Chairman Garcia asked if there was backup from SHPO saying that they agreed with the proposed project? Mr. Tuk stated that those should be with the application that was submitted.

Chairman Garcia shared his concern with the stamped concrete to be used in the platform area.

Chairman Garcia stated that brick could be purchased that would blend with the brick that is already in place. Chairman Garcia went on to state that no corners were cut when renovating the Train Station so that it would look as close to the day it was built. Mr. Tuk stated that he understood the concern as he had seen bad stamped concrete jobs but that he had also seen good stamped concrete jobs and that Amtrak has used stamped concrete at other Train Stations around the Country. It was stated that it is necessary for Amtrak to raise the platform which is where the stamped concrete would be used. This is an ADA project and the stability of the platform is necessary. The concern is if using brick again there will be damage caused by freezing and thawing, mortar joints and ground movement. The intent is to use a product that will last.

Lorraine Garduño made a motion to "Place on the table for discussion". Rick Rubio seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all Board Members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Rick Rubio asked what exhibit is the letter that was on the screen a few moments ago, which Exhibit would that be in our packet?

Chairman Garcia asked if staff had received approval from SHPO? Charles Ortiz stated that staff had not received the document. Chairman Garcia stated that the project needs to be approved by SHPO. Mr. Tuk stated that SHPO did concur with the project on August 17, 2023 number 120154 and was signed and stamped on the FRA letter.

Nina Simonetti stated that if she were provided with everyone's email that she would email the complete packet to all Board Members.

Lorraine Garduño moved to table the item. Lorraine Garduño amended the motion to include having a special meeting for this item. Roland Medrano seconded the motion. The Chairman asked for a roll call vote.

Rick Rubio: Yes
Roland Medrano: Yes
Lorraine Garduño: Yes
Lee Einer - Yes

The motion passed with all approving.

3. Conduct a public hearing regarding a Design & Review Board application by MainStreet de Las Vegas at "MainStreet Corridor" for more benches and trash receptacles within the historic corridor followed by consideration for approval of the application.

Chairman Garcia announced the next Agenda item.

Rick Rubio left the meeting at 5:02 P.M. The quorum was maintained with the remaining Board Members present.

Cindy Collins and Makahla Haparat came forward to represent MainStreet de Las Vegas. Cindy Collins explained the MainStreet District and stated there are existing benches and trash receptacles that were approved by SHPO ten to fifteen year ago. She stated that Lodgers' Tax approved the purchase and City Council also approved the project.

Lorraine Garduño moved to "Place the item on the Table for discussion. Roland Medrano seconded the motion. The Chairman call for a voice vote with all voting in favor. The motion passed.

Lorraine Garduño asked about the SHPO document and for a larger map. It was stated the need to resubmit the SHPO letter and a larger map.

Lee Einer moved to table the item. Roland Medrano seconded the motion. The Chair asked for a voice vote, with all voting in favor. The motion carried with all voting in favor.

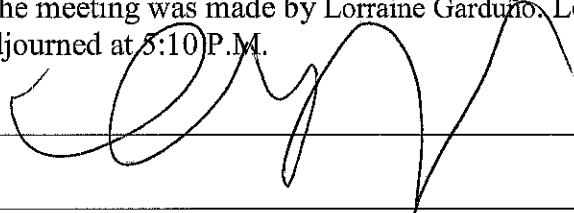
Other Business:

None.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lorraine Garduño. Lee Einer added the second. All voted in favor. The Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

Minutes approved on _____



1/21/2025

~~Harold Garcia, Chair~~
Isaac Sandoval
Temporary Chair