



Historic Preservation Advisory Board Minutes December 01, 2021

Due to COVID-19, virtual participation for this meeting was made available via Zoom. The proceeding can, also, be viewed at <http://losalamos.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Members Present: Patrick Moore, Chair; Nancy Bartlit, Robert Dryja, and Michelle Murillo, Members

Member Absent: Jonathan Creel, Vice Chair

Council Liaison: Councilor Denise Derkacs

Others Present: Eric Martinez, PW County Engineer; Sobia Sayeda, Planning, CDD; Wayne Kohlrust, PW Project Manager; Linda Matteson, Deputy County Manager; Ruth Lear, Carrie Gregory, Chris Judson, David Jolley, Dean Decker, Elizabeth Martineau, John Bulthuis, Acting Public Works Director; Michele Mullen, Architect with Mullen-Heller; Madie Wickstrom, Mullen-Heller; Sara Rhoden, Project Manager Public Works; Roberta Klisiewicz, Loretta Weiss, Louise Romero, Office Manager, Public Works; Patrick Moore, William Blumenthal.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm by Chair Moore.

Approval of Minutes

Member Bartlit moved that the minutes for November 03, 2021, be approved as presented. Member Murillo seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Members and interested guests introduced themselves.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BUSINESS

Fuller Lodge Second Floor Balcony Update

Wayne, Kohlrust reported that clear Plexiglass has been installed across the railing areas, secured with zip-ties and people have reported that the installation is virtually invisible. Sobia Sayeda shared photos of the railing with the installed Plexiglass.

Fuller Lodge Art center Canopy Update

Wayne Kohlrust gave a brief overview of the process of the review and approval by NM State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the proposed updates to the Lodge. Member Bartlit voiced her objections to the design of option Number 1. Councilor Derkacs asked about the red color of the roof and if it will match the rest of the roof on the building. Michelle Mullen said the roof will match existing and SHPO found the proposed colors, design, and materials acceptable to the State's Preservation Office.

WAC building Project Update

Wayne Kohlrust discussed the public outreach by the County to the local neighborhood and the Tourism Board. Some of the things that were discussed during the meeting that will need to be done to the WAC Building to make it ADA Compliant.

Michele Mullen gave a presentation of the existing conditions of the building and site evaluation. She then gave a short discussion of any site and building improvements that might be made to the property bring it up to code and make it more sustainable.

Mullen-Heller has an Architectural Historian on their team who will do an evaluation of the property to find the defining architectural features. They will make some management and improvement recommendations. It will begin with the process of having the building designated on the historic register.

As a Manhattan Project Park Volunteer, Roberta Klisiewicz discussed what she has seen as suggestions at the park by visitors for good uses of the building. One suggestion was a representative room of what a room would have looked like in the building during the war era. She would like to voice concern for moving the visitor center from the center of town to this area of town. She also liked the idea of having some affordable housing on the second floor of the building.

William Blumenthal noted that this might be a unique opportunity nationally to have a WAC museum since there isn't one currently existing.

Robert Dryja liked what Mr. Blumenthal said but he also wanted the Board to be able to look at Elizabeth Martineau's material on what she wanted to present to the board which is echoing what Mr. Blumenthal was suggesting for a National WAC Museum. He also likes the idea of a dormitory on the second floor.

Loretta Weiss said she was very supportive and enthusiastic about the project.

Linda Matteson received an email from Liz Martineau which had most of her points captured by Mr. Blumenthal with the idea of the building being an educational space first and foremost. Ms. Matteson also listed a few of the comments that came from the tourism committee; dorms, an art museum, an outdoor interpretive space, work with the creative district to create something for artists in the building. She voiced the concern of the neighborhood residents who liked the idea of a museum of the Manhattan Project Park but were concerned that running buses and large drop offs of people would disrupt the character of the neighborhood. One other idea would be a boutique hotel.

David Jolly likes the idea of moving the National Park Visitor Center to the WAC Building and leave the town's visitor center downtown and incorporate a Woman's Army Corps Museum into it.

Nancy Bartlit would like to see some of the rooms of the WAC Building dedicated to the Manhattan Project National Historic Park for administrative offices and possibly to house a few temporary staff visitors. She would like to see the County prepare an application to add the building to the local, state, or national registry. She would like to add the project added to the Work Plan for next year. She also would like to see two bronze statues of WACs, possibly of historic figures who lived in Los Alamos during the Manhattan Project, [referenced Paul Numerof's book In August 1945] located outside with educational exhibits. Michele Mullen said that she heard from the community that they would like to have some sort of housing in the building and public art exhibits.

Informational items

Work Plan Ms. Sayeda discussed how the FY23 Work Plan can move forward so it can be approved by County Council in May. Ms. Sayeda will send out a draft Work Plan for the Board to look over before the next meeting.

Staff Reports



Councilor Derkas gave a report on the latest Council actions. She said that the Historical Society has Ms. Martineau as a liaison to HPAB but currently there isn't a Liaison to the Historical Society Board from HPAB. That will be discussed at a future meeting.

Member Bartlit reported that the APP Board did not have any agenda items that would be of interest to the HPAB.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURN

The next HPAB meeting will be held on January 5, 2022, at 5:30 via Zoom.
Adjournment was at 7:05 p.m.