

**Minutes**  
**Historic Resources Board**  
**City Commission Room, City Hall**  
**1101 Poyntz Avenue**  
**May 24, 2010**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Ray Weisenburger, Chair; Tom Roberts, Vice Chair; Tracy Anderson; Patrick Schaub; Michael Krysko; Brooke Norman-Tapp.

**Members Absent:** George Lauppe.

**Others Present:** Linda Glasgow; Sara Fisher; Kathy Dzewaltowski; Dixie West; Debbie Sarhoff; Melvin Watson.

**Staff Present:** Lance Evans, Senior Planner.

**1. Consider the minutes of the April 26, 2010, Historic Resources Board meeting.**

Roberts moved that the Board approve the April 26, 2010 minutes. Anderson seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 4-0 (Schaub and Norman-Tapp had not yet arrived).

**2. Discuss potential Historic Districts and the nomination process**

Evans gave an overview of the process involved when the Houston & Pierre Streets Residential Historic District was nominated, which included two public meetings hosted by the Board and the notification of property owners within the environs of the district.

Roberts discussed how the Board prioritizes districts based on community interest and level of endangerment, as indicated in the Board's Action Plan.

The Board requested public input regarding historic district prioritization.

Dixie West suggested the first priority should be the most endangered neighborhoods, such as the African-American neighborhoods, but that having interested residents is also necessary.

Sara Fisher of the East Park Neighborhood Association said she would like a historic district designation to help protect her neighborhood.

Melvin Watson said that a historic district designation would be helpful but that there are larger comprehensive planning issues in the area.

Fisher and Watson expressed concerns with the limitations of the protections currently offered by the Traditional Neighborhood Overlay (TNO) zoning designation, specifically mentioning duplexes that have been approved as Conditional Uses.

Weisenburger said the East Park neighborhood may be a higher priority for a district than the neighborhood west of City Park.

Debbie Sarhoff informed the Board that her home, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, experienced a dramatic increase in its assessed property value between 2009

and 2010. The appraised value was successfully appealed but she has concerns about other historic homes potentially being subject to similar increases.

The Board discussed having the County Appraiser at a future meeting to get clarification on how historic designation is factored into property valuation.

Addressing the East Park neighborhood, the Board suggested the residents put together a summary of their issues. The Board discussed engaging with other City boards to address the concerns of the residents.

The Board requested that further discussion of historic districts be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **3. Discuss Historic Plaques & Markers**

Roberts reported that he is collecting data and would like to have the item discussed more on a future agenda. Roberts said he would like to talk to downtown property owners to assist in designing a historic plaque template. Roberts said there is a template for larger markers but not for smaller plaques for downtown and public buildings.

### **4. Announcements and Updates**

The Board was updated that the City had been awarded the Historic Preservation Fund grant to prepare a Multiple Property Documentation Form for African-American Cultural Resources.

The Board was updated that the nomination of the Strasser House was approved by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review for listing on the Register of Historic Kansas Places and has been forwarded for consideration to the National Register.

The Board was updated on the status of the proposed demolition of 1001 Pierre. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with the finding of the Historic Resources Board and determined that the proposal does not meet the *Standards and Guidelines for Evaluating the Effect of Projects on Environs*, meaning that a demolition permit cannot be issued unless the City Commission were to consider and approve an appeal.

### **5. Future Items**

The Board identified the following items for future meetings:

- Existing Buildings Code: Code Adoption Update (June 28<sup>th</sup>)
- Potential Historic Districts and nomination process
- Property appraisal of historic homes and districts
- Election of Officers (when new members have been appointed)
- HRB Action Plan (when new members have been appointed)
- Training Session with SHPO staff

**6. Upcoming Meetings**

- Monday, June 28, 2010
- Monday, July 26, 2010

**7. Adjourn**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cam Moeller, AICP, Planner II

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