

**TOWN OF FLORENCE
HISTORIC DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE HELD WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014, AT 6:00 PM, IN THE CHAMBERS OF TOWN HALL, LOCATED AT 775 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Wheeler, Smith, Reid, Cochran, Adam and Tapia.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Smith.

DISCUSSION/APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL of the minutes of the special meeting conducted on October 8, 2014.

On motion of Commissioner Reid, seconded by Commissioner Adam, and carried to approve the minutes with corrections of the special meeting conducted on October 8, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

CASE HDAC-10-14-DR (FLORENCE COLLECTIBLES, COINS & STUFF)

DISCUSSION/APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL of a Design Review signage application for the "Florence Collectibles, Coins & Stuff" retail establishment located at 260 North Main Street in Florence, Arizona.

Heath Reed, Town Planner, stated this historic commercial building was built in 1898 as a flat roof adobe structure. This building is one of the few remaining examples of the adobe-walled regional/vernacular wood support earth-roofed Sonoran or Spanish Colonial architectural tradition still standing on Main Street. The building has been utilized for commercial uses from a restaurant, bank, office and recently as a retail shop. This property is zoned Downtown Commercial (DC) which allows retail uses.

The owner has met with staff and submitted an application for Design Review for signage at the 260 North Main Street location. The awning sign and a suspended sign

will be located on the front of the awning and under the awning. The awning sign will be 8" x 72". The suspended sign will be 18" x 36".

The design will contain black/green lettering with a white background. Staff recognizes that the location and style of the sign is a good fit for this location and follows the Florence Town Site Historic District Preservation Design Guidelines for awning and suspended signs.

The font that the applicant is proposing is not one of the three options suggested within the Guidelines. However, the font is close to the suggested fonts within the Florence Town Site Historic District Preservation Design Guidelines and is still legible and easy to read with a color comparison that is not intrusive or loud and distracting. The colors provide significant contrast between the background of the sign and the letters. Staff notes that the design of the sign does not clash with current signs within the area.

Staff found that this request was in compliance with applicable Town Codes and hereby recommended approval to the Historic District Advisory Commission for the Design Review application HDAC-10-14-DR, subject to the following conditions:

1. Construction of signage shall conform to the exhibits presented on November 19, 2014.
2. Design Review approval shall expire in one (1) year from this approval (November 19, 2014) if a building permit is not issued for the subject site/project within said period.
3. Signage shall comply with all applicable Town Codes, including all applicable building, fire and engineering codes.

The applicant spoke stating he is opening his business in this location so the building will not sit vacant or be torn down and so he can support Main Street. He requested that the Commission allow him to have three separate signs, all to hang from the awning.

The Commission asked various clarifying questions to the applicant, all of which the applicant answered sufficiently.

The applicant stated he chose not to use one of the Town recommended fonts due to readability and cost.

The Commission and Mr. Reed discussed adding additional font suggestions in the future.

On motion of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Cochran, and carried to approve the Design Review signage application for the "Florence Collectibles, Coins & Stuff" retail establishment located at 260 North Main Street in Florence, Arizona.

COMMISSION BOARD ELECTION

Heath Reed, Town Planner, stated there is the vacant seat of Vice-Chair which the Board should nominate a Commission member to fill. Only Commissioners in attendance may vote, nominate someone to fill the seat or nominate themselves to fill the seat. Mr. Reed opened the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Cochran nominated Commissioner Cathy Adam. There were no other nominations. Commissioner Adam accepted the nomination.

On motion of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Cochran and carried to approve the Commissioner Board Election of Cathy Adam as the Vice-Chair of the Historic District Advisory Commission.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC/COMMISSION RESPONSE

Call to the Public for Comment is limited to issues within the jurisdiction of the Town of Florence Historic District Advisory Commission. Individual Commission members may respond to criticism made by those commenting, may ask staff liaison to review a matter raised, or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda.

Ruth Harrison, Florence resident, inquired if the Commission might be able to find a way to encourage the owner of the consignment store to repair and repaint the outside of the building.


The Commissioners stated that is outside of their jurisdiction and recommended that Ms. Harrison contact the "3F" organization that has been painting buildings within the town.

CALL TO THE COMMISSION

The Commission reminded those in attendance to not forget the Parada Parade event, which will be held on Saturday, November 29, 2014 at 10:00 am.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm by Chairman Wheeler.

x 
Chair Betty Wheeler