



Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board

*A Certified Local Government (CLG)
Program representing four governing bodies:*

*City of Billings
City of Laurel*

*Yellowstone County
Crow Tribe*

MEETING MINUTES

*April 21, 2015
First Floor Conference Room
2825 3rd Avenue North*

Members Present – Liz Harding, Judy Goldsby and Logan Hendricks

Members Absent – Tabatha Butler, Kevin Nelson and Nancy Curriden

Staff Present – Lora Mattox and Elisabeth DeGrenier

Others Present – Ralph Studer and Jordan Smith (High Plains Architects)

Minutes - The minutes of the March meeting were tabled due to a lack of a quorum.

Public Comment – None.

Old Town Historic District Expansion – Jordan Smith from High Plains Architects informed the board on the intent of High Plains to request an expansion to the Old Town Historic District. The expansion would include the buildings along Montana Avenue in the 3100 block. Ralph Studer, the owner of the building in between HRDC and Mitchell Golf would like to be able to access historic preservation tax credits for a building renovation. To access tax credits, the building either has to be listed individually to the National Register or part of a nationally listed historic district. Mr. Studer will be talking to the owner of Mitchell Golf on the ramifications of being included in the district. High Plains and Lora will meet with the owner of the HRDC building to discuss the historic district. The HRDC and middle building would be contributing buildings to the district, Mitchell Golf building would be non-contributing. High Plains will keep Lora and the board up to date on the process.

New Member Application – Blain Fandrich of Ethnoscience has submitted an application to the board. His position would be an expertise position for knowledge of archaeological and cultural resources. The board is excited about Blain's interest and Lora will forward a letter to the County Commissioners recommending his appointment.

Roundtable Recap – See consultant report.

AT & T Rimrocks Art Identification – Lora updated the board on this proposed project. Due to a request by AT & T to place an additional cell tower atop the Electric Building (Hooligans), SHPO has requested they provide some mitigation work to the YHPB. The ideas that was submitted and accepted by AT & T is the identification and GPS mapping of historic pictographs along the Rimrocks. Currently there has been a Memorandum of Agreement drafted. Lora will keep the board informed as this project moves forward.

North Elevation Historic District Neighborhood Meeting – Lora mailed post cards announcing the neighborhood meeting on the creation of the historic district. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29th at 4:00 p.m. The meeting is scheduled for the Community room at the Library. Kate Hampton from the State Historic Preservation Office will in attendance and be the main speaker. Kevin and Elisabeth will also present a progress report on where in the process we are in.

Consultant's Report –

Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board Report by Elisabeth DeGrenier and Kevin Kooistra Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board Roundtable – Tuesday morning, March 24:

The 90- minute event was well-attended. Participants and speakers included: A&E Architects, Billings Depot, Chief Plenty Coups State Park, CTA Architects Engineers, Custer Gallatin National Forest, Downtown Billings Association, Legacy Doll Museum, Ethnoscience, Extreme History Project, High Plains Architects, Billings Public Library, Moss Mansion, Mechanical Technology Incorporated, Western Heritage Center, Yellowstone Art Museum, Yellowstone County Museum, Yellowstone Historical Society, Yellowstone Kelly Proposal at Sword's Rimrock Park, Billings Chamber of Commerce, and Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board. The State Historic Preservation Office, represented by Kate Hampton, and Montana Preservation Alliance, with Christine Brown, also gave short presentations. Special guests included Angela Cimmino of the Billings City Council and Molly Holz of the Montana Historical Society.

The 2015 Eugene Carroll Historic Preservation Award was presented to Dr. Timothy Urbaniak. Dr. Urbaniak has been leading projects that explore archaeology and history through applications of technology. As the Director of the Montana State University Billings Archaeological Field team, he has led students and volunteers in projects that have included 3D reconstructions of historic sites, digital imaging applications, surveying technologies, desktop virtual reality, three-dimensional scanning and applications of multimedia. He is currently teaching in his 28th year at MSUB in the Drafting and Design Program and recently completed his PhD in Anthropology at the University of Montana, where he studied historic inscriptions and their role as a form of residual cultural communication. Tim gave a short seven minute program on his amazing work.

The 2015 Best Practices Achievement Award was presented to Mike and Chris Nelson, owners of the Northern Hotel, and A&E Architects and Dennis Depp-Meyer for their splendid renovations and re-opening of the Northern Hotel in downtown Billings.



Photo: Tim Urbaniak, the 2015 Eugene Carroll Historic Preservation Award recipient, and Mike Nelson of the Northern Hotel with the Best Practices Award for A&E Architects for their renovations and re-opening of the historic Northern Hotel. Congratulations!



Photo: Dennis Deppmeier, formally of A&E Architects, Mike Nelson of the Northern Hotel, Logan Hendricks of the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board, and Eric Simonsen of A&E Architects.

A special thanks to the Union Railroad Depot and Jennifer Mercer for hosting.

Another thanks to Gene Burgad and the Rex for opening their parking lot for the event.

Total costs of the event, with the food, drinks and the plaques, was roughly \$250.00.

Roundtable Follow Up:

Kevin Nelson returned the coffee urns to City Brew.

Returned table cloths to the Western Heritage Center.

Sorted, edited and posted two dozen photographs on Facebook from the YHPB Roundtable at the Billings Depot.

Ordered and delivered a second Best Practices Achievement Award plaque for A&E Architects.



Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board members, Kevin Nelson, Liz Harding, Lora Mattox (Historic Preservation Officer), Logan Hendricks, and Judy Goldsby.



Molly Holz of the Montana Historical Society, Nancy Curriden, YHPB President, Randy Hafer of High Plains Architects, Jenna Richter of the Moss Mansion, Kate Hampton of the State Historic Preservation Office, Christine Brown of the Montana Preservation Alliance and Halcyon Lapoint of the Custer Gallatin National Forest.

The North Elevation Historic District Nomination:

Preparing a short power point that reviews the North Elevation project, including the neighborhood meeting in 2008. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at 4:00 at the public library on North 28th Street. Kate Hampton of the SHPO will also be presenting.

Elisabeth constructed a map that breaks down each property into 8 sections. Each section corresponds to a component of the Property Record form (i.e. Architectural Descriptions, History of Property, Topo Map etc.). She is currently going through each property record and filling in what has been accomplished on the map, mainly focusing on the completion of Title Pages, Architectural Descriptions, History of Properties, Photographs, Sketch Maps and Topo Maps. Our goal is to have a complete status on every property for the April 29th meeting.

Historic Preservation Officer Report - Lora informed the board on the request from the Armour Cold Storage Building on an informal opinion on whether an additional Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) would be required for an egress window on the nonpublic right-of-way side of the building if it was the same type of window replacement that received approval last year. The board determined that since a previous COA was approved for window replacement last year, an additional COA was not needed. Lora will inform the owner.

Board Roundtable – None

The next meeting will be held on May 19, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned.