



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 19, 2019

First Floor Conference Room

2825 3rd Avenue North

Members Present –Blain Fandrich, Sue Mueller, Evan Bruce, Becky Jeter, Keith Edgerton and Kevin Nelson

Members Absent – Allen Rapacz (excused)

Staff Present –Lora Mattox, Lauren Hunley and Tam Rodier

Others Present –

Minutes - The minutes of the February meeting were approved on a motion by Evan, seconded by Sue.

Public Comment – No public comment.

CDBG Property Review –

930 Steffanich – The property was constructed in 1955 and is dilapidated. After further review of the required work that would need to be done, the property may be demolished and a new residence built. This new construction would be developed for low-income residents. The property does not display any features that would make it eligible for the National Register. Keith motions that the property is no eligible for the National Register and the use of CDBG funds is appropriate for either rehabilitation or demolition/new construction, seconded by Kevin, approved.

Programmatic Agreement – Tam explained that this document is in place and is an agreement between HUD, City of Billings and the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board to conduct an historic review of properties that are scheduled to receive CDBG or other federal funds. The updated document included some language cleanup and the addition of two items to be included on the exemption list. The two items are bathroom remodels that bring the room up to building code and ensure safety and the repair/replacement of exterior steps and stoops. The board states that these are reasonable changes. Sue motions to accept the changes and have the HPO sign, Evan seconds. Approved.

Riverside Park – The Laurel Park Board on April 4 approved a motion to recommend that the Laurel City Council vote on a proposal to list Riverside Park to the National Register of Historic Places. This project is listed as an item in the YHPB Work Plan and the board has been working with Laurel to move forward with a listing. Lora will work with the new City Planner and notify the board when the council will be reviewing this item.

Also, members will be presenting to the Laurel Rotary Club on April 23 at noon at the Beartooth Grill. All are welcome.

Lauren will work up a proposal for hours to complete the National Register listing for the Park. We probably need to think about the mausoleum as well.

Kevin will ask Leslie Gilmore her opinion regarding a preservation plan or similar.

Consultant's Report – *Attached at the end of the minutes.*

Historic Preservation Officer Report – Lora shared the following with the board:

- As of April, we started in on the new grant cycle. We closed the last grant in good shape and have about \$5,000 carryover for projects.
- Lora informed the board on MSUB student activities at Boothill Cemetery. Dr. Tom Rust is leading this project with assistance from Dr. Tim Urbaniak, Shelli Mann (Boothill Inn), WHC and others. Lidar will be used to assess the site and potential burials or other disturbances.

Board Roundtable –

- Blain mentions a couple, the first being the I-90 bridge project. Currently reviewing the gas station near the bridge in Lockwood (currently used car lot). Blain also states that he has been in conversation with Kate Hampton at the State Historic Preservation Board on progress with the Riverside Park project.
- Lauren reminds that board that Yellowstone Valley Gives will be coming up soon. This 24-hour event raises money for local non-profits.
- Kevin states that CTA is beginning work on the Romney Gym (Hall) on the MSU campus.
- The Alberta Bair project will start May 1.

The next meeting – May 21 (if needed)

Adjournment.

Consultant Report:

Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board (YHPB)

Western Heritage Center (WHC) Consultant Report

Lauren Hunley – April 16, 2019

Goals & Objectives of YHPB:

- I. Promote the preservation of historic buildings, sites, or neighborhoods
- II. Increase community awareness on the benefits of historic preservation activities
- III. Promote increased awareness of preservation activities and the work of the YHPB through the four governing bodies represented on the Board
- IV. Comply with the duties and responsibilities of historic preservation organizations under the state Certified Local Government Program and the requirements of the Inter-local Agreement

Community Work

WHC hosted the 2019 YHPB Roundtable at the Heritage Center on March 19th, 2019. Twenty organizations shared slide updates with the group.

The WHC has answered several research questions and helped multiple researchers in projects pertaining to historic Billings properties including the Hart Albin Building, the L&L Building, and 716 N. 32nd St.

As requested by the Board, the WHC researched Sunny O'Days in Laurel. Please see the binder at the meeting for full information.