



***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, 2009*

**Members Present** –Emelie Eaton, Warren Osik, Kathleen Armstrong, Bill DuBeau, Julie Larsen

**Members Absent** – Maisie Sulser, Brian Roberts, excused.

**Staff Present** – Kevin Kooistra-Manning and Lora Mattox

**Others Present** –Lynda Woods and Tammy Johnston, Community Development Department.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by chair Emelie Eaton. The minutes of the February meeting were approved by a motion made by Warren, seconded by Kathleen. Minutes approved.

**Public Comment** – None.

**CDBG Property Rehab Reviews** – The board reviewed 3 properties for Community Development Block Grant Rehabilitation Program through the Community Development Division. The addresses are: 811 N 23<sup>rd</sup>, 122 Jefferson and 1429 Avenue C. After review of the proposed work on each property, the board voted on a 5-0 vote to concur with Community Development that the properties are probably not eligible for the National Register and the proposed work for the rehab was appropriate. The board did make the following recommendations on the rehab elements:

811 N 23rd:

- Retain existing wood front entry door with rehabilitation of the frame, trim and include insulation
- Instead of aluminum colored windows, the board recommends a white vinyl color

**Member Applications** – Lora reviewed the three board applications the board has received for membership. The three applicants are: Monica Weldon, Karen Stone and Kyle Rickoff. During discussion the board would like to delay action on these applications and request that the Board of County Commissioners re-open the application process. This is in response to the desire of the board to allow an additional resident to apply for the position. Lora will compose a letter to the BOCC in regards to this request and delay action on a new member until May or June.

**Local Government Visits** – Lora informed the group that she and Kevin will set up the visits to Laurel, Billings and Yellowstone County officials.

## **Committee Reports –**

**Historic Preservation Month Committee** – Historic Preservation Month is May and there will be an event held on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. This will be a downtown walking tour in conjunction with Bike, Walk and Bus Week. Kevin will email out the information.

**Publicity Committee** – None.

**Building Permit Review Committee** – None

**Project Reports** - None

## **Consultant Report –**

### **YELLOWSTONE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD – April 21, 2009 Report by Kevin Kooistra-Manning, consultant to the Board.**

Brian, Kaili and Kevin examined the neighborhood forms and strategy for the North Elevation Register project. Kaili is inputting the data. Kevin attended the Billings Preservation Society program on the North Elevation neighborhood led by Dr. Tom Rust and Leslie Gilmore of CTA – Kevin sent Leslie his YHPB powerpoint on the North Elevation neighborhood history, done in 2008. Leslie, in turn, provided the YHPB with her research, which will be useful for the National Register nomination.

Disk of images of the Babcock Theater were sent to College of Technology. Kaili and the YHPB hosted a tour of the Babcock Theater for the Museum's Association of Montana Conference in March. 15 people attended the walk through led by Mike Mathews and Don Olsen.

Kevin worked with Andrea Kramer at General Services Administration and Steve \_\_\_\_\_ at Big Sky Economic Development and searched and sent historic images and architectural drawings of the MDU building on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North. Building is slated for demolition.

Kathleen Candeleria of the South Side Task Force came by and received information, brochures, and publications about the National Register of Historic Places for the task force. Kevin is scheduled to present a National Register program at the South Side task Force on May 21. Kevin also delivered information to Joan Brownell for the Minnesota Avenue / Old Town nomination for the National Register.

Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board Annual Roundtable was Tuesday, March 17. Attendance was the best in three years. Presentations for Eugene Carroll Preservation Award nominee, Vernon Drake, and Best Practices nominee, CTA and Mike Tuss, went very well. Kevin put in extra hours preparing for the Roundtable, including the research for the Vernon Drake powerpoint, awards, food, billing, and planning.

Kevin photographed the following demolitions: 518 Parkhill; 121 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street; 121 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street; and 2511 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North.



121 South 8<sup>th</sup>



518 Parkhill



121 South 24th



Kevin scheduled a downtown historic walking tour for historic preservation month on Friday morning, May 15, 11:30-1:00. Work is coordinated by Darlene Tussing.

**Historic Preservation Officer Report** – Lora reported the final quarterly report for last year's CLG was sent off and beginning this month we are in the new CLG cycle. Lora also stated that next month she would like the board to review the work plan and begin initiation of that and how potential stimulus funds could assist in some of the projects. Finally, Lora discussed the new hours for the Planning Division. The division will be closed daily from 12-1 p.m. for lunch and from 8-1 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday to walk up counter service. Planners will still be available those hours by appointment only.

**Board Roundtable –**

- Warren discussed his recent trip to Denver and wonderful improvements that city has made to the downtown mall area. With electric transit, street cleaners and police presence, the downtown is a vibrant place. When visiting the Visitors Center, staff commented how they used Billings Montana Avenue for their vision.
- Bill discussed his vacation last month to southern Florida. He also discussed the rehab work going on at Hamilton Hall at MSU Bozeman. During the rehab several interesting finds, original electrical work etc. The rehab is going very well.
- Julie gave the board a brief biography to introduce herself to the board. Her background is in interior design but also photography.
- Kevin reported that the Western Heritage Center is back open with 6 new exhibits. It will be up all summer.

The next YHPB meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19th at 8:00 a.m. in the large conference room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Library.

Meeting adjourned. 9:20 a.m.