



***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**

*October 20, 2009*

**Members Present** –Emelie Eaton, Kathleen Armstrong, Julie Larsen, Maisie Sulser

**Members Absent** – Bill DuBeau, Kyle Rickoff, Brian Roberts, Warren Osik

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

**Others Present** –

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by chair Emelie Eaton. This meeting was held at the Western Heritage Center. The minutes of the September meeting were approved by a motion made by Kathleen, seconded by Julie. Minutes approved.

**Public Comment** – None.

**Committee Reports** –

**Historic Preservation Month Committee** – None.

**Publicity Committee** – None.

**Building Permit Review Committee** – None

**Project Reports** - None

**Consultant Report** – Attached

YELLOWSTONE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

October 20, 2009

*Report by Kevin Kooistra-Manning.*

*North Elevation National Register Nomination:*

Kevin met with Kathie Shandara and Eric Simonsen, the two who took charge of the work in the 1100 block of North 31<sup>st</sup>. They did a fantastic job. Eric will continue to help with the mapping of the blocks and seek help from Ed Gulick. Kudos to the Moss Mansion for providing a volunteer to help with the historic home research. Kaili and Kevin continued to research properties and Kaili input the Neighborhood survey forms for the North Elevation. There are still about 70 homes that need full research.

Julie Larsen, YHPB Board member, took photographs of the North Elevation properties. Julie dropped off a set of digital photographs and these will be added to the Property records. *We need to re-shoot all the houses in the 1100 block of North 31<sup>st</sup> to add consistency.*

Last day for the railroad horn blasting was midnight on September 17. Downtown Billings Alliance celebrated the event at the Western Heritage Center on October 1.

- *Other:*
- Kevin photographed the Naval Reserve building at North Park.
- Joan Brownell requested information about the Minnesota Avenue properties.
- Kevin writing a grant for Western Heritage Center to fix plaster ceilings and handicap access door to the historic the Parmly Billings Library building.
- Pete Brown, of the SHPO, contacted Kevin about the downtown MDU building demolition. Kevin sent information about “shovel ready” project called *Downtown Through the Decades*, that the YHPB Board has on its work plan. Pete wrote GSA and Big Sky Economic Development in support the YHPB effort to create a portable *Downtown through the Decades* exhibit chronicling Billing’s architectural resources such as the MDU Building’s history. The completed exhibit would be property of and managed by the YHPB, and would be displayed at community events such as farmers’ markets and street fairs. Pete sent a preliminary board, but I’m not certain if it’s a stand alone.

**Historic Preservation Officer Report** – Lora informed the board that she did submit the quarterly reports for this period. Also, she attended the Montana History Conference in Great Falls. The conference was excellent and had great speakers and topics.

**Board Roundtable** –

- Kathleen informed the group of the stabilization of the Colter signature in Custer. This signature site is located on private property; however, the property owner is allowing preservation of the site.
- Maisie told the group that the survey of the Old Town Neighborhood is still ongoing.
- Julie spoke about her touring around Montana this summer and her trip to Butte.

The business meeting was adjourned to tour the Western Heritage Center and listen to some of the ghost stories associated with the building.