

## ***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 15, 2014**

**First Floor Conference Room**

**2825 3rd Avenue North**

**Members Present** –Judy Goldsby, Liz Harding, Tabatha Butler, Kevin Nelson

**Members Absent** – Nancy Curriden, Diane Jung

**Staff Present** – Lora Mattox, Kevin Kooistra, Elisabeth DeGrenier, Lynda Woods

**Others Present** – None

#### **Introductions -**

The minutes of the February regular and special meeting were approved as presented.

**Public Comment** – None.

**CDBG Rehab - 4529 Vaughn Lane** - Lynda Woods gave an overview of the project which includes the replacement of windows and the front exterior door. The front windows will be replaced with casement vinyl windows, the east window that are located in the bedrooms will be replaced with egress windows to meet code, and the front entry door will be replaced with a solid core steel door. After review, the board recommends that the configuration of the new entry door have be similar to the existing. No comment on the window replacement. Judy asked Lynda how projects are selected. Lynda stated that the housing rehab program is funded through HUD and applicants must be approved based on income. To be reviewed for historic preservation, the residence needs to be at least 50-years old. Kevin asked about the protocol for vinyl windows and how the board reviews that. Lora stated that in many cases the board wants to ensure that the homeowner can access the funds for the housing rehab but still maintain some historic character. So for example, if the property is not necessarily eligible for the National Register but has an interesting historic feature the board can recommend trying to save or replace with in-kind configuration. There are some properties that come before the board that would be eligible for the National Register, but the decision to list is up to the property owner, however, the board may take a bigger stance on historic features of the property and how to "treat" them.

**YHPB Roundtable Recap** - Just a brief overview of the Roundtable held in March. The event went very well and received media attention as well as the Mayor and a Commissioner attending. Attendance was also up this year, the most participation in a few years. The only issue was the sound quality.

**Member Application** - The board reviewed the application of Ellen Kuntz. There was a concern discussed at the last meeting, there was some confusion on whether Ms. Kuntz was living in Billings or Bozeman at this

time. Also, the board currently has 3 vacancies, Yellowstone County representative, professional expertise and a representative from the Crow Tribe. It was suggested that Ms. Kuntz could be appointed as the Yellowstone County representative. Lora will contact Ms. Kuntz to see if she is still interested in the board and clarify her residency.

**Work Plan Review/Update** - The board reviewed the updated Work Plan provided by Lora. There were two outstanding issues to look at before acting on the work plan. The first was if there was any interest from a teacher survey on the expansion of educational trunks. Tabatha was provided information in the surveys and there was really no interest in expanding the types of trunks at this time. This project will be removed from the work plan. Kevin still needs to check with Tom Rust at MSU-B to see if there is interest to have students identify 1-2 barns from the Barn Report completed a few years ago and move forward with making contact with the property owners to gauge interest in the listing to the National Register.

**Consultants Report** – attached

*YELLOWSTONE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD*

**Tuesday, April 15, 2014**

Report by Kevin Kooistra and Elisabeth DeGrenier

**Historic Preservation Roundtable – Tuesday morning, March 18:**

With 22 programs / organizations represented, it was the best attended YHPB roundtable in the past three years. Highlights Included:

The 2014 Eugene Carroll Historic Preservation Award was presented to Gloria Wester for her extensive historic preservation efforts on behalf of Pompeys Pillar National Landmark, the site of the July, 1806 carved signature of William Clark of the Lewis & Clark expedition. Gloria Wester is cited for taking a leadership role with the Pompeys Pillar Historical Association, for countless hours of volunteer service, and for donating her talents and time in the publication and printing of newsletters, pamphlets and posters.

The 2014 Best Practices Achievement Award was presented to High Plains Architects of Billings for their outstanding renovation and adaptive re-use of the Tracy Building at 2600 Montana Avenue, Billings. The work of High Plains Architects and their restoration of the former George L. Tracy building was cited as contributing to the sustainable economic development and the revitalization of Montana Avenue and the Billings Townsite historic district.

CTA Architects gave a five minute presentation by about the McKinley and Broadwater School Designs.

Total Costs of the event, for food, drinks and the plaques, was roughly \$250.00.

*Thanks to the Union Railroad Depot and Jennifer Mercer for hosting.*

*Thanks to Gene Burgad and the Rex for opening their parking lot for the event.*

**Historic Preservation Review of 4529 Vaughn Lane for Community Development.**

## Community News

### **Garfield Historical Building Dedication, Friday, May 2 at 1:30**

Working with Regina Demis, Director of Public Relations, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch.

On Friday, May 2, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch and Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board will be hosting a ceremony at the Garfield School building to unveil the official plaque recognizing Garfield School as a National Register of Historic Places.

Lora Mattox, the county's historic preservation officer, will explain the mission and purpose of the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board and what it means to be recognized on the National Register of Historic Places.

Kevin Kooistra will present a special Program about Architectural Styles of the Billings Southside. The neighborhoods of Billings' South Side represent a cross-section of American architectural styles that trace the history of our community from its earliest days through to the present. This 30 minute power point will highlight the unique history of the Billings south side and its neighborhoods.

**Montana Modernism**, now on display at the Western Heritage Center through June 7, 2014. Exhibit features photos of modern buildings and the architects of post World War II and their influence on the built environment of Montana. A&E Architects and Billings Architectural Association sponsoring the exhibit.

## Community Assistance

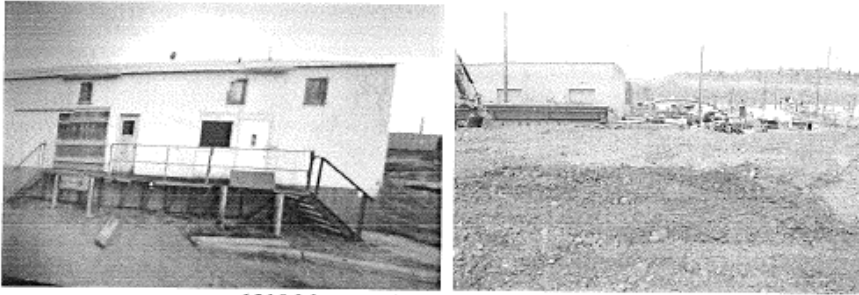
Bill Kilgore, through a contact with Lora Mattox, forwarded 30 photographs of the CCC camp at Camp Ballantine, on the Huntley Project, in the late 1930s, to the Western Heritage Center.

Scanned a 1979 inventory of the buildings of the Midland Empire Fairgrounds, to be used as a reference tool for preservation and expanded inventory of fairgrounds.

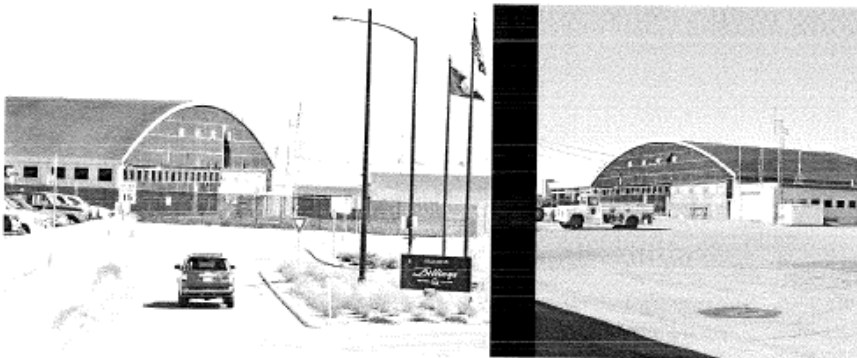
Western Heritage Center, with a donation to the Planning Department, scanned and accessioned a photo album of images donated by Dorothy J. Kalfa, of California, of Yellowstone National Park, circa 1918.

**Demolitions:**

Photographed 1310 Montana Avenue, Parmly Billings Library on North Broadway, and the Airport Hangar – all in process of demolition.



1310 Montana Avenue, March 10, 2014



Airport Hangar, March 28, 2014



Back of the Parmly Billings Library, March 28, 2014

**Historic Preservation Officer Report** - Lora reported that she did contact Bill Dutcher at MetraPark regarding review and inventory of the barns and other buildings, no response to date from him. The airport hangar is being remediated at this time for asbestos but then Kevin and I should be able to get in there and document. Lora has submitted the final report for the FY13-14 CLG grant, the new grant cycle started April 1st. Finally Lora mentioned that SHPO may have some discretionary funds available for a one time grant later this year, Lora suggest applying for funds to complete the National Register nominations for McKinley Elementary School and the North Elevation Neighborhood.

**Board Roundtable** – Kevin asked if the board is still interested in meeting at the new library for the May meeting? Lora will contact Bill Cochran to see if that is possible. With that, Liz mentioned that she could give us a tour of the Yellowstone Art Museum for a future meeting, the board will look at this for the July meeting. Kevin Nelson also offered a tour and meeting at CTA in the future. Liz also mentioned that in

Bozeman in a couple weeks a free disaster planning seminar will be held. This is geared towards disaster planning for an organization.

The next meeting will be on May 20th, location and time to be determined.

Meeting adjourned.