



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

June 16, 2015

First Floor Conference Room

2825 3rd Avenue North

Members Present – Judy Goldsby, Nancy Curriden, Blain Fandrich and Kevin Nelson

Members Absent – Tabatha Butler, Liz Harding, Logan Hendricks

Staff Present – Lora Mattox and Kevin Kooistra

Others Present –

Minutes - The minutes of the March meeting were approved on a motion from Judy, seconded by Nancy. Approved. The minutes of the April meeting were approved on a motion by Judy, seconded by Blain. Approved.

Public Comment – None.

North Elevation Historic District – Lora gave an update on her side of the grant and discussed the need for as much in-kind local match as possible and reminded the board to document every time any work or assistance is completed on the North Elevation grant. Things are moving smoothly and anticipate the narrative being drafted during July and August. Lora will re-send out the volunteer donation form to the board.

Consultant's Report – Next page.

On April 29, 2015 at 4 pm, a meeting was held at the Billings Public Library with the residents of the North Elevation Neighborhood. Lora Mattox welcomed the group of fifteen to twenty people. Kevin Kooistra presented a PowerPoint on the district history and the project. Kate Hampton, from the State Historic Preservation Office, provided an overview of the National Register process.

During the month of May, we concentrated on compiling information from the neighborhood residents that attended the April 29th meeting. Many were eager to donate maps and histories about their homes. We sent historic images to a couple residents. We also contacted two title companies in the hopes they will assist us in completing some property histories of the more prominent homes in the neighborhood. We also continued organizing content on hand. Eric Simonsen sent in a few sketch maps that have been added to the Property Records. We are currently in the process of contacting residents in the potential district for title and historical information. We also received a couple early photographs of the North Elevation neighborhood from the James Reich collection.

Reviewed a property at 1823 Avenue E-Housing Authority Project. Home constructed in 1959 was in need of window replacements. Approved by the Board in early May, 2015.

Historic Preservation Officer Report - Lora informed the board that the MOU is still being drafted for the Rimrock Art ATT mitigation project. Hopefully have an action plan soon. The Planning Division recently went through a staffing loss, hopefully be fully re-staffed by late summer.

Board Roundtable – Judy also mentioned that the City of Laurel also has an opening for a planner in the city offices. On June 22, Ann Kooistra-Manning will release her book on the history of Laurel. Judy was contacted by a gentleman interested in producing a 20-minute video on Laurel, may be on the CHS Refinery. Finally, Judy was contacted by a person interested in purchasing and rehabbing the Trading Post building in Laurel for a hang-out for veterans. Blain told us about a project he just finished up on documenting all the buildings at the Billings Airport. The FAA commissioned the study to identify and document buildings on the site in advance of future expansion at the airport. There are only a handful of buildings remaining and in a condition that would make them eligible for the National Register. He also mentioned a project he is doing for MDT in Hungry Horse on a bridge replacement and road alignment project, the bridge was constructed in 1938. The Kootenai-Salish Tribe has asked for a simple exploration of the land surrounding the bridge for any cultural resources. Kevin Nelson stated that the elementary school rehab projects are moving on schedule and hope to wrap up this fall. He will check to see if a tour of Broadwater might be available to the YHPB. Kevin Kooistra informed YHPB that the West High School Students exhibit on immigration opened. About 48 students participated and interviewed over 8 different countries. Also recently opened is the Crow Photographs exhibit. Kevin is still working on the history of the local Rotary Club as well as still scanning documents from the Montana Room at the library. Finally, Lora mentioned a program that the city is working on this summer in the Central-Terry neighborhood. The TUNE-UP program is a way that public and private property owners stabilize the neighborhood through the identification of public realm deficiencies such as missing/broke sidewalks, street signage, street lights, overgrown vegetation in public rights-of-way that the city will take care of. Code Enforcement will go out in July and identify private property violations and send notice to the property owner. NO citations will be issued! During July, dumpsters will be provided throughout the neighborhood to assist owners with disposal of junk. In August there will be celebration picnic at Terry Park.

The next meeting will be held on July 21, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned.