



## ***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**

**March 3, 2015**

**First Floor Conference Room**

**2825 3rd Avenue North**

**Members Present** –Liz Harding, Nancy Curriden, Kevin Nelson, Judy Goldsby, Logan Hendricks

**Members Absent** – Tabatha Butler

**Staff Present** – Lora Mattox, Kevin Kooistra, and Elisabeth DeGrenier

**Others Present** – Councilman Mike Yakawich, Ward 1

**Minutes** - The minutes of the January meeting were approved on a motion by Judy and seconded by Kevin. Minutes approved.

**Public Comment** – None.

**2015 Annual Roundtable** – The Roundtable is scheduled for March 24, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. and will be held at the Union Depot. The format will be the same again this year with an Ignite PowerPoint presentation. Refreshments will be available as always. Board members will be involved as greeters, sign-in table and presenting awards. Members of the board have volunteered to contact a few of the groups that have not responded yet.

**2015-2016 CLG Grant** – Lora introduced this item. The CLG grant is an annual grant the board applies for. This year the funding level has been returned to \$5,500 and contracts with the Western Heritage Center will be amended for this year appropriately. Liz motioned to approve submittal of the 2015-2016 CLG grant to the State Historic Preservation Office, Tabatha seconded. Approved.

**2015 Award Nominations** – The board discussed possible recipients for this year’s Eugene Carroll and Best Practices awards. Lora didn’t receive any outside nominations but did nominate Dr. Tim Urbaniak for the Eugene Carroll Award. Lora did also suggest that the Northern Hotel was nominated for the Best Practices Award in 2013 but did not win, since it was recently placed on the National Register and received an award from Montana SHPO, thought this was a great option. After discussion, it was decided that Tim Urbaniak and the Northern would be award recipients this year. Judy and Logan will present the awards. Lora and Kevin will contact the winners.

**2015-15 Work Plan** - This is the time of year when the board review’s the previous year work plan and make changes to the upcoming work plan. The board decided not add additional projects this year due to the

extensive North Elevation Historic Residential Neighborhood Project. On a motion by Liz, seconded by Judy, the work plan was approved as presented.

**Consultants Report –**

**Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board Report**

Elisabeth DeGrenier and Kevin Kooistra - March 3, 2015 at the Miller Building.

The Board selected **Tuesday, March 24, from 8:00-9:30**, for the date for this year's Roundtable at the Union Depot. Jennifer Mercer, director of the Depot, is our contact.

Elisabeth sent out the forms and press releases for the Eugene Carroll Historic Preservation Award and the Best Practices nominations. It is suggested the nominations be sent back to the YHPB Board by March 1, 2015 and the YHPB board decide by Tuesday, March 3, 2015. A Save That Date notice was sent out and a formal press release will be sent out in early March. We will arrange the presentations in an Ignite power point format again, which will require direct contact with community partners.

**Some of the year's presenters so far:**

Billings Chamber of Commerce  
Billings Public Library  
Chief Plenty Coup State Park  
? High Plains Architects  
Extreme History Project  
Mechanical Technology Inc.  
Moss Mansion  
Yellowstone County Museum  
Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board  
Western Heritage Center

**Previous presenters that have not sent materials (Might Contact some of these groups):**

Billings Gazette	BLM Curation Center
Custer National Forest	Chamber Trails (SW Montana)
CTA Architects	Doll Museum
Ethnoscience	High Plains Architects
Montana State Historic Preservation	National Forest Service
Our Montana	Pictograph Cave
Pompeys Pillar	Yellowstone Art Museum
Geneology Forum	Architectural firms

There has not been lot of interest generated in possible selections for the Eugene Carroll Award this year. Will need a formal application. Some suggestions included:

Judy McNally. National Trust for Historic Preservation, Billings Preservation Society, etc

Dr. Tim Urbaniak. "Historic Inscriptions of the Northern Plains," Montana State University Billings.

Stephen Aaberg. Montana archaeologist since the late 1970s. Lives in Billings.

Randy Hafer. High Plains Architects. Downtown revitalization.

P.J. Smith, President - Yellowstone Genealogy Forum (YGF).

John LeVar, Nancy LeVar, Helen Bryson and volunteers for Pompeys Pillar Historical Association.

**Previous receipts of Eugene Carroll Historic Preservation Award:**

2003: Joyce Jensen	2004: Ruth Towe	2005: Dave Eckroth & Harold Hagen
2006: Joan Galles	2007: Rich Clawson	2008: Mardell Plainfeather
2009: Vernon Drake	2010: Ron Garritson	2011: Stu Conner
2012: Howard Boggess	2013: Mike Schaer	2014: Gloria Wester

**Previous receipts of Best Practices Preservation Award:**

2006: High Plains Architects for the L&L Building at 2624 Minnesota Ave.  
2007: High Plains Architects for the Old Southside Maverick Fire Station.  
2008: O2 Architects for the Acme Hotel Project on North Broadway.  
2009: CTA Architect Engineers for the Marshall-Wells Building at 13 North 23rd, Billings.  
2010: High Plains Architects for the Swift Building Loft on Minnesota Avenue.  
2011: Collaborative Design's restoration of McMullen Hall, MSU-Billings campus.  
2012: O2 Architects for the Babcock Block Building and Theater, North Broadway.  
2013: CTA Architects Engineers for Morledge-Kimball Hall, Rocky Mountain College campus.  
2014: High Plains Architects for the Tracy Building at 2600 Montana Avenue, Billings

**North Elevation Historic District:**

Elisabeth is working on Deed and Record searches at the Clerk & Recorder's office, on the 4th floor of the Courthouse, to search for information pertaining to ownership of the homes. She has been spending 8 hours a week on city deed records at the Courthouse and filling in the historic property record forms for property ownership history. Elisabeth will be available every Monday morning from 10:00-11:30 for other volunteers to the project. She selected prominent houses on each block that either stood out for their design, had historical significance, or encompassed the architectural character of the block. These homes, 18 in total, will have complete Deed and Record searches done on them. The rest of the homes will have the Polk directory information. As of now, 6 homes are left to be researched. Shauna Kerr is still volunteering her time on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2-5pm.

Elisabeth contacted Ed Gulick, the architect working on the architectural descriptions, and Julie Larsen, the landscape photographer finished photographing the 125 plus properties. The work on the architectural descriptions, mapping, and descriptions is moving forward.

Contacted and confirmed that Nicholas Bryant can volunteer his time to help Eric Simonsen with the map portion. Will begin putting together all the pieces into the Historic Property forms in March.

**Historic Preservation Officer Report** - Lora informed the board that High Plains Architects may present plans for the expansion of the Old Town Historic District in April. The expansion is located along Montana Avenue from North 31<sup>st</sup> Street to North 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Only includes the south half block along Montana Avenue. A building owner is interested in renovating the building using Federal Historic Tax Credits, to do this, the property either has to be within a district or individually listed to the National Register. High Plains is in the process of contacting all property owners within the district expansion boundary to garner interest. Next Lora informed the board about the ongoing conversation with SHPO in regards to the availability of a mitigation project from the installation of a cell phone tower on-top of the Electric Building (Hooligans/Acme Hotel). SHPO has requested that AT & T provide a project to the YHPB for historic preservation activities. After discussion, the project proposed to AT & T is a location/documentation of Rimrock Pictographs within the public park area of the Rims. AT & T have shown interest in this type of a project and could include over 50 hours of work from an archaeologist. The sites would be GPS located, photographed and documented. As more information becomes available, Lora will inform the board.

**Board Roundtable** – Judy mentioned that the gentleman has inquired about purchasing and renovating the Trading Post located at W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Main Street has been stalled. The city is still interested in demolishing the structure for a parking lot. Kevin mentioned four presentations/events coming up at the WHE. The first is Playapalooza on Saturday, March 4 from 10-3. This includes old-time games for children to play. Next is a couple High Noon Speaker events, the first on March 12 will be Ken Egan who will talk about Montana in 1964. On March 19<sup>th</sup>, Bentley Sprang will be delighting people with his techno art and song. Finally, Kevin asked if anyone has access to historic photos of the Rotary. He is completing a local history of Rotary and is looking for pictures.

The next meeting will be held on March 24, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. and is the Roundtable.

Meeting adjourned.