



***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**  
**February 25, 2020**  
**First Floor Conference Room**  
**2825 3rd Avenue North**

**Members Present** – Sue Mueller, Evan Bruce, Becky Jeter, Keith Edgerton, and Kevin Nelson

**Members Absent** – Blain Fandrich

**Staff Present** – Lora Mattox and Lauren Hunley

**Others Present** – Perry Moler

**Minutes** - The minutes of the January meeting were approved on a motion by Sue, seconded by Evan.

**Public Comment** – No public comment.

**New Business:**

**2020 YHPB Roundtable:**

**Awards:** The board received one nomination for each category.

**Eugene Carroll Award** – Blain Fandrich nominated Lynelle Peterson. Blain submitted the following:

“Lynelle Peterson has over 35 years of cultural resource management experience in Montana and surrounding states. As president of the Plains Anthropological Society, she raised awareness of of cultural preservation in Yellowstone County by bringing the Plains Anthropology Conference to Billings in 2004. She is an active member of the Montana Archaeological Society, where she has held numerous offices, including president and treasurer. Newspapers have interviewed her for expert information about archaeological sites throughout the region. She has also worked to help preserve and interpret nationally important sites such as Chief Plenty Coups State Park”. Sue motions to accept Lynelle as this year’s Eugene Carroll Award winner, seconded by Evan, approved.

**Best Practices Award** – A&E Design nominated the 124 Group, LLC and the McDonald Building for the award. The McDonald building is located at 124 N. 29<sup>th</sup> Street and is home to the original YMCA and most recently Wendy’s and office space. Through the redevelopment, the main level and second floor serve as office space for A&E, the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor offers 12 apartments. Keith motions to accept the McDonald Building as the award recipient for the Best Practices, Sue seconds, approved.

Blain will present the Eugene Carroll award and Kevin will present the Best Practices award.

**Refreshments:** Over the last couple year, YHPB members have brought refreshments to share with Roundtable festivities. This year WHC will provide the coffee/water, Sue will bring cheese/grapes, Becky will bring muffins, Lora will bring some mandarins, and Kevin will bring some donuts. We should be covered!

**Old Business:**

**Laurel-Riverside Park** – Lora provided an update on activities in regards to Riverside Park. Nick, Laurel City Planner is applying for the Department of Commerce historic preservation economic development grant. It is due on February 28 and Lora has been assisting as needed. The Laurel City Council did approved a resolution to move forward with a National Register nomination for the park. After the Roundtable is over in March, the board will discuss the best way to move forward with assisting Laurel on the nomination. Lora asks Lauren and WHC to review the current workload and see if we can allocate hours each month towards the project. Lora will keep everyone in the loop as we move forward.

**Consultant’s Report – Attached at the end of the minutes.**

**Historic Preservation Officer Report** – Both WHC and Lora have been in discussion on the expansion or additional historic districts in the North Elevation area with Perry Moler. Perry was in attendance today and asked the best way to approach as the Next Door neighborhood group is looking at changing names to the “Historic North Elevation, Pioneer Park, McKinley Neighborhood”. Perry is interested specifically at this time to include the east side of the 800 Block of N. 31<sup>st</sup> Street. Lora said she could talk to the state and see the best way to expand, either the current district or develop new (through the different subdivisions). Lora also stated that this would not be able to start quickly due to capacity and work load, but is next on the list to explore.

**Board Roundtable** – Lauren states that the Western Heritage Center will re-open on March 3, 2020 and provided flyers on the different exhibits. The exhibits include:

- Now a Montanan, Stories of Immigrant Women in Yellowstone County;
- Saints & Sinners, Women Breaking Tradition;
- When Culture Meets Fashion, Apsalooke Crow Style; and
- Hazel Hunkins, Billings Suffragist

The next meeting – YHPB Roundtable, March 17, 2020

Adjournment.

**Consultant Report:**

**National Register Work**

WHC has reviewed the Mausoleum Nomination Packet and presents it to the Board for approval and permission to submit to SHPO. Kevin has also been coordinating work to advance the McKinley School nomination.

WHC prepared and mailed 48 Roundtable invitations for the March 17<sup>th</sup> Event. Each invitation also included nomination forms for the Eugene Carroll and Best Practices awards. To date, the Montana Historical Society and Chief Plenty Coups State Park have confirmed attendance. Reminders will be sent the first week of March.

The WHC continues to help community members research historic properties in Yellowstone County. This include work with Onearc Films on the Northern Hotel and helping Perry Molier explore a possible extension to the North Elevation District.

The WHC also reports that Cecelia Gavinsky, Collections Manager at the Western Heritage Center, will be transitioning as the new liason to the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board.