



Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board

A certified local government (CLG)
Program representing four governing bodies

City of Billings
City of Laurel

Crow Tribe
Yellowstone County

AGENDA

FEBRUARY 16, 2021 MEETING TIME: 8:30 a.m.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

****ATTENTION****

Due to the COVID-19 health concerns, this meeting will be held in a virtual videoconferencing environment. Yellowstone County Historic Preservation Board members will attend the meeting via a remote location, using a virtual meeting method. The regular meeting rooms will be closed during the meeting. In order to honor the Right of Participation and the Right to Know in Article II, sections 8 and 9, of the Montana Constitution, the City/County Planning Division is making every effort to meet the requirements of the open meeting laws.

Citizens are invited to:

- Review the Agenda Packet on the City's website at: <https://ci.billings.mt.us/117/Agendas-Minutes>
- View the meeting live online at Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/Billings-Planning-Community-Services-Department-1738982159659260>

Public comment will be taken only during the Public Comment periods as indicated on the agenda and during the Public Hearings, if any are scheduled, under the Regular agenda. Comments may be sent to Board via email before 10:00 AM on the meeting date. All emails received prior to this time will be read into the record for the public hearing. Comments may be submitted by:

- Mail: City/County Planning Division, 2825 3rd Ave N 4th Floor, Billings, MT 59101
 - Email: bartleyr@billingsmt.gov
- Call in during the Public Comment periods as indicated on the agenda:
 - Citizens may call in during specific Public Comment periods at **406.237.6165**.
All callers will be placed in a queued system and are asked to remain on hold and be patient. Calls will be taken in the order in which they are received. Callers will be limited to 3 minutes of testimony as is customary. Future delivery methods may be explored as best practice is learned.

Please direct questions to Transportation Planner Lora Mattox at mattoxl@billingsmt.gov or 406-247-8622.
Thank you!

1. **Call to Order-YHPB: Welcome! YHPB Chair**
 - a. **Public Comment Period** - As required (3 minute maximum per person). Any member of the public may be heard on any subject that is scheduled as a public hearing. Items not on the agenda may be commented on, however, the Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board will not take any action on those items at this time, but could choose to add an item to the next meeting's agenda for discussion.
2. **Motion. Approval of the minutes of: January 19, 2021**
3. **Old Business**
 - a. Discussion: 2021 YHPB Roundtable
 - b. Motion: 2021 YHPB Work Plan
4. **New Business**
5. **Other Business**

- a. **Board Roundtable:** Comments from the Board on activities outside of YHPB
 - b. **Announcement:** The next Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board: TBD
6. **Future Agenda Items**
7. **Adjournment**

YHPB Agenda

2.

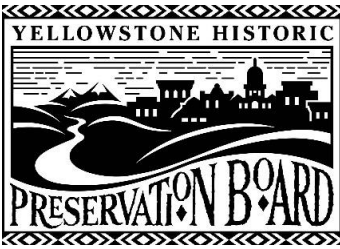
Meeting Date: 02/16/2021

Subject

Motion. Approval of the minutes of: January 19, 2021

Attachments

January 19, 2021 Minutes



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

January 19, 2021

Via Zoom

2825 3rd Avenue North

Members Present – Blain Fandrich, Zachary Garhart, Becky Jeter, Evan Bruce, and Brenna Moloney

Members Excused – Kevin Nelson and Keith Edgerton

Staff Present –Lora Mattox, Kevin Kooistra and Cecelia Gravinsky

Others Present –

Call to Order

Public Comment – No public comment.

Minutes – Evan motioned, seconded by Brenna to approve the minutes of the December meeting. Motion approved.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

FY21 CLG Grant: Lora gave an overview of this years grant application. Once again, SHPO is allocating \$6,000 to full time CLG's. This is good as it gives an opportunity to provide the Western Heritage Center a larger monthly stipend. Evan motion to submit the grant application as presented, Zach seconded. Approved.

2021 YHPB Work Plan: This time of year, the YHPB reviews and updates the annual work plan. The board completed several of the items in the last year that have been on the work plan for a couple of years. Some projects the board would like to explore and include are:

- Complete the nomination for Riverside Park;
- Explore other Yellowstone County, Billings, Laurel, and Crow cultural and historic resources for listing on the National Register;
- Explore platforms to update and reactivate the Electronic Downtown Walking Tour;
- Provide education opportunities through public presentations.

The board will discuss further at the next meeting.

Electronic Downtown Walking Tour: The existing electronic tour is broken and needs to be updated. The original tour was developed back in 2010 and technology has definitely improved since then. The Western

Heritage Center recently implemented a program call ThinkLink, this platform allows for a photograph of a item/location and the ability to add a icon to access additional information regarding the item. WHC will look at modifying this program for use in the walking tour. If feasible, the HPO has discretionary funds to use for historic preservation. The WHC and HPO will develop a budget for this project.

Other Business:

2021 YHPB Roundtable: The board discussed the potential of holding the annual Roundtable this year with Covid-19. Kevin suggests delaying until the fall, possible in October. This may allow enough time to all for Covid to start reducing with the availability of vaccines. Potentially look at an outdoor venue. One suggestion was holding the event at Pioneer Park with the recent nomination and then encourage a walking tour from there to McKinley School, also a recent nomination, through the North Elevation Historic District. Blain suggests announcing the awards now to allow plenty of time to get nominations.

Consultant Report:

Cecilia and Kevin shared the following from the Western Heritage Center:

- Completed various National Register work including McKinley photographs and presenting the nomination to the State Board.
- Finalizing the Billings Mausoleum nomination with photos and measurements. The information has been sent to John Boughton at SHPO. This nomination should be reviewed by the State Board this spring.
- Cecelia is working on the Riverside nomination and WHC plan to visit the site Wednesday for photographs and architecture review for descriptions. Leslie Gilmore is helping with descriptions and we are very appreciative of the help!
- Continue to answer research requests from the public.

Historic Preservation Officer Report: Nothing more to add

Lora reported the following:

Board Roundtable:

- Zach announces that Yellowstone County Museum archives and artifacts have been moved to their new building located on King Avenue East. If the board is interested in a tour, he would be happy to oblige.

Future Agenda Items:

2021 Work Plan

Electronic Downtown Walking Tour

2021 YHPB Roundtable

Next YHPB Meeting: February 16, 2021

YHPB Agenda

3. b.

Meeting Date: 02/16/2021

Subject

Motion: 2021 YHPB Work Plan

Attachments

Draft 2021 YHPB Work Plan

Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board Work Plan 2021-2022

Goals & Objectives:

- I. Promote the preservation of historic buildings, sites or neighborhoods.
- II. Increase community awareness on the benefits of historic preservation activities.
- III. Promote increased awareness of preservation activities and the work of the YHPB through the four governing bodies represented on the Board.
- IV. Comply with the duties and responsibilities of historic preservation organizations under the State Certified Local Government Program and the requirements of the Inter-local Agreement.

2021-2022 Projects

1. Complete a National Registration Riverside Park in Laurel.

Time Frame: Throughout 2021 – Draft nomination by fall 2021
Who: YHPB Board, HPO/WHC, City of Laurel
Status: YHPB has allocated hours to allow the WHC to work on the nomination. Board has also volunteered to assist in reading over narratives and other tasks associated with the creation of the nomination.

2. YHPB and the WHC will explore the potential of reworking the Electronic Downtown Walking Tour into a more modern platform. The current electronic tour is broken. WHC will explore using ThinkLink, a platform that allows photography and programs to include information regarding the item in the photograph. This link shows an example of the program: <https://www.ywhc.org/exhibit/be-tween-the-lines-bees-their-people/>

Time Frame: Throughout 2021
Who: YHPB, WHC, HPO,
Status: The YHPB was provided an anonymous cash donation that the HPO has discretion in spending. Working with WHC, a portion of those funds could be used to assist in creating a Downtown Walking Tour.

3. YHPB will continue to explore additional Yellowstone County, Billings, Laurel and Crow Tribe historic and cultural resources that could be eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. Examples include: Multiple listing of historic barns in Yellowstone County, Huntley Irrigation System, North or South Park in Billings, Laurel resources outside the historic district and working with the Crow Tribe, identify potential sites in Yellowstone County for listing.

Time Frame: Throughout 2021
Who: YHPB, WHC, HPO, Crow Tribe,
Status: Discussion will begin early spring on potential resources to look at.

- 4. YHPB is interested in providing a program or education opportunity during Preservation Month in May. A suggested subject is the History of Riverside Park, Laurel Montana.**

Time Frame: May 2021 - Preservation month (May) is a possible time. Held in Laurel
Who: YHPB, WHC, HPO
Status: Due to Covid-19, this has been delayed.

Annual Board Activities

- 1. Continue the review of building permits submitted for properties located within the designated historic district.**

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: Committee and HPO

- 2. Continue the review of Community Development Block Grant rehabilitation projects as needed.**

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: YHPB/WHC

- 3. Continue to review and update the information relating to the Downtown Billings Electronic Walking Tour. Discuss with the City of Laurel to include its new downtown historic district in the application.**

Time Frame: Yearly
Who: Committee/WHC

- 4. To continually update the local governing bodies of the activities undertaken by the YHPB, annual PowerPoint Presentations will be made to the City of Billings, the City of Laurel and Yellowstone County.**

Time Frame: Yearly
Who: Chair/WHC/HPO
Status: The scheduling of these meetings will take place yearly during spring.

- 5. To provide up to date information to the general public, continually update the web site and social media sites on activities and programs.**

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: WHC

- 6. Provide resources to property owners who are interested in listing a property to the National Register. Including State Historic Preservation Office contacts, literature and technical assistance.**

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: YHPB Board/HPO/WHC

7. Expand YHPB meetings to alternate locations. To take advantage of some of our many historic venues, the board wishes to expand meetings to alternate locations.

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: HPO/WHC

8. Due to a loss of potential historic buildings within the City of Billings, an effort is being made to notify WHC and a member of the board about upcoming demolitions. The Building Division notifies HPO on the release of demolition permits, HPO notifies members of the demolition and a determination is made to either document/photograph building.

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: HPO/WHC/Board

9. Continue exploration of grant opportunities to provide additional funds to the YHPB for historic preservation projects.

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: HPO/WHC

10. Consultant, Historic Preservation Officer and YHPB will attend training meetings as needed. Historic Preservation Officer will attend the required annual Montana State Historic Preservation Conference.

Time Frame: Ongoing
Who: WHC/HPO

11. To provide a forum for Historic Preservationist to share their successes and discuss projects and to present historic preservation awards, continue to host the Historic Preservation Roundtable yearly.

Time Frame: Yearly
Who: WHC/HPO/Board
Status: Preservation Month - March

12. Celebrate National Historic Preservation Month. Board will decide on a program, speakers and other events to commemorate this event.

Time Frame: Yearly
Who: Committee/WHC
Status: This event will occur yearly during May.