



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 October 17, 2023 1st Floor Conference Room Planning Division – Miller Building

Members Present – Keith Edgerton, Zachary Hassler, Brenna Moloney, Zachary Garhart, Evan Bruce, Ginger Aldrich and Linda Lien

Members Excused – Becky Jeter

Staff Present –Lora Mattox, Kevin Kooistra, Tam Rodier, and Elyse Monat

Others Present – James Klanke, resident

1. Call to Order and Welcome

a. President Edgerton opened the meeting. No public comment.

Ginger was joining the board for her first meeting, introductions were made around the table.

2. Minutes – The August minutes were accepted.

3. Old Business:

a. Toolkit Update – Lora informed the board that SHPO is granting \$5,000 towards the development of 2 toolkits. Lora has been in contact with Preserve Montana on the development of these kits. As part of these kits, a public workshop on how to use the kit will be scheduled for April. In addition, a housing location, checkout system needs to be researched and developed. A location needs to be secured for the workshop. Lora has asked for assistance from the board to accomplish these tasks. Lora will develop a spreadsheet to share for board members to sign up for tasks.

4. New Business:

a. Art Sculpture at Pioneer Park – Lora gave some background on the effort to establish an Arts Committee and the work being done to incorporate more art into the community. Tam Rodier of the Community Development Division was present to discuss the project and the process required for Section 106 Review for the use of Federal funds on this project. She is asking the board for

Artist's Sculpture Rendering:



for Pioneer park. The sculpture subtle solar lighting will

Discussion included Evan asking if the top was glass? Tam responded that it was heavy duty plastic that can withstand hail and the elements. Zach H and Evan had no concerns with the installation. Brenna states that contributing features are important but parks are always evolving and has no problems with the project. Chairman Edgerton allowed public comment from James Klanke, 625 Lewis Avenue states that the proposed structure does not enhance park experience, not a natural experience which Pioneer Park excels in. Maybe this structure is not right for this place. Linda states that on the historic sides, she is trying to reconcile this piece to the history of the park. Evan states that he could see the stained-glass part being changed out in the future to different themes. On a motion by Evan, seconded by Zach H, the board concurs with the staff recommendation that no adverse effect to the parks historic character by the installation of the art structure. Passed unanimously.

5. Other Business:

a. Consultant Report:

ACTIVITY

Lauren Hunley is leading the digital walking map project - due March 1, 2024.

Kevin sent slides to the MHS preservation workshop, which they shared, but Kevin was sidelined with a nasty flu. Lora Mattox was present the whole day (Sept 28) in Helena. Both Kevin and Lora attended the *Building on the Past, Annual Montana History Conference* Sept 29-30.

NATIONAL REGISTER UPDATES

Reviewing and writing the Riverside Park, Laurel, nomination. Received examples from SHPO for Livingston Park and Pioneer Park. We are about 90% completed. Kooistra put in 30 hours with writing and research in the past month, including a site visit to verify the Caretakers Home has been demolished (it was). There are five buildings of historic interest. Each building has several names, but I did match some historic images with present images.



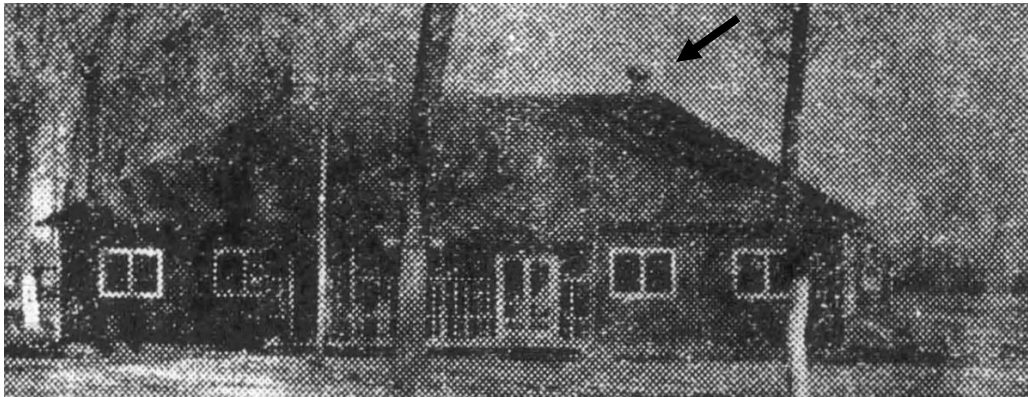
October 11, 1936 Photo - "Calamity Jane's Dance Hall," built during Transient Camp period 1935-1936. 2023 photo shows what is the west end of the Rifle Club building. The Rifle Club joined two historic buildings together, they were both 73 by 42 feet, by tearing out the east end of west building and west end of the east building, and then joining them together in 1955 with a center section 63 feet long.



Where the two buildings meet (1935 and 1955), Red dye color in older buildings.



Similar red dye separation to the American Legion building, which is just west of Calamity's Dance Hall (Rifle Club long building).



May 1936 – Dining Hall (before stone veneer) and Jaycee building, October 2023.



LOCAL BUSINESSES AND HOME RESEARCH:

- City Bridge Project – Historic Montana Avenue research for Ted Wilson.
- Create thumb drive for Dave Wanzneried for Boothill Cemetery Project.
- Research about former Mexican Colonia for former resident.
- Look for location for 2024 YHPB Roundtable.

b. Historic Preservation Officer Report – No additional comments.

c. Board Roundtable – Evan shared that 101 E. Main has a new business in it. The original bank elements have been kept including some windows, exposed brick and use of the original doors. Keith mentions the upcoming free events at MSU-B that center around the 1920's. Brenna shared an update on the Chief Plenty Coup building stabilization project and Pictograph Cave. Both of these projects received National Park Service grant funds.

a. Announcement: Next meeting TBD.