



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

December 19, 2023

Moss Mansion

914 Division

Members Present – Keith Edgerton, Zachary Garhart, Evan Bruce, and Linda Lien

Members Excused – Becky Jeter and Ginger Aldrich

Members Absent – Brenna Moloney and Zachary Hassler

Staff Present –Lora Mattox, Dave Green, Kevin Kooistra, and Tam Rodier

Others Present – None

1. Call to Order and Welcome

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

b. Historic Preservation Officer Changes – Lora announced that she has been promoted to the Transportation Planning Coordinator for the Billings Metropolitan Planning Organization and will no longer be able to act as the Historic Preservation Officer. In her place, Dave Green will be stepping in. Dave has been with the Planning Division for many years as the Subdivision Coordinator. At one time, he worked with Lora on historic preservation. Dave will do a great job and Lora will be just down the hall and help him transition into the position over the next couple months.

2. Minutes – The October minutes were accepted as presented.

3. Old Business:

a. Toolkit Update – Lora informed the board that the toolkits have been ordered and paid for! She also found out that the workshop is limited to about 12 participants. With that in mind, the board will have to determine who is the best to invite. The option is to include a few that could act as trainers for future workshops. Evan is going to check to see if we could host the workshop at the Lions Club building at Riverside Park.

4. New Business:

a. CDBG Review: 1709 – Tam Rodier from Community Development gave an overview of the property being proposed for the use of CDBG funds for rehabilitation. The property located at 1709 Saint Johns Avenue was in foreclosure and in very poor condition. Work proposed include

the front and rear doors, handrails, roofing, removal of the chimney, repair/replacement of siding, soffits, fascia and trim, repair/replacement of windows and removal of vegetation. After review, Evan motions to approve the rehabilitation, seconded by Linda. The property does not appear to be eligible for the National Register. Motion approved.

5. Other Business:

a. Consultant Report:

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Kevin Kooistra - WHC Lead.

RESEARCH UPDATES

Reviewing and writing the Riverside Park, Laurel, nomination. We are about 95% completed. Kooistra put in 20 hours with writing and research in the past two months. There are five buildings of historic interest. Will try to send out to the SHPO in early January, 2024.

Kooistra will begin the National Register nomination for Chandler Cohagen multiple property nomination in February (7 key properties near Pioneer Park and North Elevation). Target deadline is June 01, 2024.

Lauren Hunley is leading the digital walking map project. She put in another 14 hours this past month – It will be completed by March of 2024.

NEWS

23rd Annual YHPB Historic Preservation Roundtable. Hosted on March 19 at 8:30 by the Art House Cinema & Pub at 109 North 30th. Mailing for Awards and announcements in January, 2024.

Lora Mattix / Dave Green switch discussion at Rock Creek on December 12.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND HOME RESEARCH:

- Working with Dave Wanzenried for Boothill Cemetery Project / research about Sacrifice Cliff story. Sent articles and also did TV interview.
- Montana Leather Company Building Research.
- Jordan Hotel, Glendive research.
- Location of Coliseum / KKK for Dr. Edgerton.
- 716 N 32nd Street - Moler house / Joan Brownell.
- Andy Nelson (Pawn shop) research photos for window replacements on properties on Montana Avenue (Losekamp Building).
- Calamity Jane cabin photo to Jaci Webb at Laurel Outlook.
- Parkhill / Alderson question about street names.
- Exchange Café & Arlington Rooming House Locations.
- Research into World War II and Veterans Park in Billings.
- Airport Hangar (northside) – need to photograph.

Note: *Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories* opens at Western Heritage Center on April 9, 2024 - May 24, 2024.

b. Historic Preservation Officer Report – Next meeting items will include the review/development of the annual workplan, review of the CLG grant and discussion on the Roundtable.

c. Board Roundtable – Evan shared that the Lions Club has taken over the Jaycee Hall in Riverside Park. Have a new signed lease. They plan on making repairs to the building with backing from the city. Zac informed the board that the museum facility will be doing upgrades to the facility. The January meeting may be held at the storage facility.

a. Announcement: Next meeting January 16, 2024.