



Yellowstone Historic Preservation Board

A Certified Local Government (CLG)

Program representing four governing bodies:

City of Billings

Yellowstone County

City of Laurel

Crow Tribe

MEETING MINUTES

May 19, 2026

City Hall, Beartooth Conference room

Members Present –Cecelia Gavinsky, Ashley Holeman, Brennan DeBoer, Tony Contreras, Zachary Garhart

Members Excused – Linda Lien

Members Absent –

Staff Present – None

Others Present –

1. Call to Order and Welcome

a. No public comment.

2. Minutes – The April minutes were accepted.

3. Old Business:

- Ann reported she is on track to meet the June deadline for the first portion of the narrative for the Cohagen project.
- She also plans to complete the first house by December.

4. New Business:

- Tony introduced the **Kevin Kooistra Youth History Fellows Program**.
- Plans include outreach to school counselors and history teachers to encourage participation.
- Tony proposed introducing the program during the winter season so scholarship grants can be awarded before graduating seniors leave for college.
- Discussion included whether grant funding may be used for scholarships.

- **5. Other Business:** Kate Hampton suggested contracting an architect to assess damage to Wayman Chapel.

a. Consultant Report: None

b. Historic Preservation Officer Report – Nothing reported

- Future Agenda Items: Review the City Ordinance for Historical Preservation for possible revisions. Brennan noted the ordinance has not been updated since the 1990s.
- Discuss creation of a new Downtown Historic District along 2nd Avenue, Broadway, and 29th Street.

a. Announcement: Next meeting June 16, 2026.

Meeting was adjourned.