

DRAFT Minutes, Cheyenne Historic Preservation Board

Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 – 6:00 pm

Meeting Place: Hybrid: City Council Chambers + Online

Agenda:

2101 O'Neil Ave, Committee Room 104/Zoom

Cheyenne Historic Preservation Board Ex-Officio City Council Representative (invited) Urban Planning Office Representative (invited)

1. Roll Call - Milward S., Cathie T., Jason, Gary S., Max C., Don H., Josh, Amber, Jason B., John B., Dave B.

CJ not present.

2. Approval of Minutes from July 13, 2021 regular meeting

Cathie T. moved, Don H. seconded to approve the Minutes as submitted. Motion passes.

3. Audience Business: Comments from the Audience (Each limited to 5 minutes, please)

Mr. Erik Cox joined the meeting. He's writing a book on the historic tunnels under the state capitol complex and is looking for information.

The board gave advice on various avenues to pursue and people to talk to.

4. Comments/Report from City Council Rep.

Richard Johnson reported on the URA meeting. Extensive discussion ensued about whether a Demo by Neglect ordinance could play a part in preventing historic buildings from deteriorating to a point where it can help prevent situations from occurring that would result in the lien issues the working study group is concerned about.

It was decided that Cathie T. would be included in all CHPB meetings involving the Demo by Neglect ordinance and Sam will make her aware of them as they're scheduled.

5. Comments/Report from Urban Planning Office Rep.

Urban Renewal Authority update – each project has to have a plan that goes to council and is approved. 1st project is the Hitching Post. If approved, it will take place on Aug. 23.

Westside re-zoning: Open house in early September. Should go to Planning Commission by Oct.

Jason asked how receptive the Council was to using Tax Increment Financing (TIF)? Jason has an idea to use TIF to pay for remediation of any demo by neglect. Could revenue from a TIF be limited to all the contributing structures to generate revenue to use to pay for maintenance/repairs?

* Sam will do some research but it is possible that you would have to declare the entire historic district to be blighted.

6. Committee Chairs' & Liaisons; Reports

HCI – David B. reported that they have a logo for the Pump House. They're working with the city to identify ways to mothball the building.

Marketing - Cathie proposed Oct., or Nov. for the historic bar crawl. Still need to reach out to the bar owners.

Cathie reported that she sat on the work study group for the ordinances for the city for priority lien. Bankers Assoc., Chamber, Title Companies, etc. attended. Concerns were expressed about the ordinances being proposed. Puts an issue on title insurance – concern that it would lower the value that lenders would be able to lend and increase interest rates. Work study group is going to tell the Mayor they want the ordinances killed. Cathie recommended that the Demo By Neglect ordinance could be an avenue for preventing buildings from getting to the point that this concerns apply.

7. Old Business

Don reported on this year's 'Cruise Nights' event. The location and traffic flow was changed and wasn't as favorable as last year. \$275 was raised. Dave B. mentioned that we weren't as obvious this year because we were selling ornaments the previous year.

a. Airport Fountain

\$2,500 grant from Women's Civic League allocated to pay for the architect's "scope of work" Working with city purchasing dept. on the bidding process. Will keep the board informed.

Cathie T. moved, Don H. seconded to reimburse Gary for his \$54.19 in expenses working on the blocked orifices on the fountain.

Gary brought up the importance and urgency of providing for the maintenance of the fountain given the focus, time and effort the board has put in to it. Jason expressed that the Parks Dept. should be responsible. They already take care of the water line. He asked what would be involved in designating the triangle that includes the fountain as a city park.

M. Simpson asked what the official process is for the city to establish a new park. Sam will speak with Charles B. and ask if we can have a conversation with Parks about it and then check into the requirements.

Jason asked that this be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Ornaments

Gary gave an update and shared the ornament design. They'll be sold for \$25 apiece. If someone buys 100 of them the price is \$20 apiece. He asked the board's support for the idea of working with the state museum on some kind of custom ornament.

Ideas for marketing the ornaments were discussed. Sam indicated that adequate funds were available without necessarily needing ornament proceeds. Gary mentioned that the proceeds can be allocated to other projects but he wants to make sure the airport fountain is fully funded first.

Jason and Milward offered that proceeds could be allocated for things like benches or interpretive signage or administrative expenses related to a future pocket park.

New Logo – Gary proposed this be put on the agenda for next month.

b. Airport Terminal

Jason provided an update. Jason and Stephanie Lower reached out to Tim Barth today. They're wrapped up in the reconstruction of the runway. He feels the future of the terminal went by the wayside when they concentrated on the runway. Tim will get back to him on doing a tour of the old terminal. He's retiring and we want to make progress before then. A successor hasn't been named.

He will make sure the board's aware of the tour date and time.

Other:

Councilman Johnson gave us a vehicle and we received \$168 cash for picking it up.

Gary reported on the Dubois Award house on 17th St. The owners were asked to give a date and time that would work for them. He advised that the presentation will take place on short notice.

8. New Business

a. SHPO Videos/ Lunch and Learn Topics

Annual report – Sam – She and Jason met with the WY SHPO's office to talk about the past year of our work as a CLG. . They have training videos available. She sent them to us via e-mail. Are there other topics we'd like to see addressed by the SHPO? Every other Thursday @ lunch time. Linsa Kiisk mentioned she was pleased with our work as a board and asked us to keep up the good work.

Board recommendations for topics included writing national register nominations, using TIF's for historic preservation and other creative funding sources and established historical districts. Sam will explore these ideas with Linda Kiisk.

b. Wyoming Humanities Council ARP Funds

Sam outlined the two kinds of grants available, project and operations at \$5k each. Funds would have to be expended in the grant period which ends Dec., '22.

Milward recommended a focus on replacing the funds that were cut from the city budget as a consequence of COVID.

Josh suggested it would be a good time to establish a Historic district for the west side.

Milward asked if a taskforce should be created to come up with suggestions. Jason responded yes and asked that the recommendations be supported by the strategic plan.

Jason suggested a work session to consider and vote on the proposals on Aug. 31. At 5:30 p.m.

Other:

Milward proposed drafting a resolution to dedicate October as Bill Dubois Arts and Humanities Month in Cheyenne.

Richard Johnson provided guidance on the process and timeline required with these resolutions and expressed his willingness to sponsor it.

9. Adjourn

Don moved, Max seconded to close. Motion approved.

8/31 5:3 p.m. – work session to approve ARP funding request.

Looking Ahead:

Next Work Session: XXX, 2021, 5:30 pm – Zoom Next Board Meeting: September 14, 2021, 6 pm – Zoom