

Minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission

March 16, 2000

Members Present: Mitch Evans, Ruth Dolezal, Mac McGraw,
Lyda Hardy & Hazel Calkins

Guests Present: Rich Wojdakowski & Joanne Williams

Mitch Evans, chairman, officially opened the meeting. He went over the minutes, and asked if anyone had any corrections.

New Business:

We started off by having a discussion with the County Building Inspector, Rich Wojdakowski, and the County Planner, Joanne Williams, regarding designated and possibly designated historic sites and their surrounding properties. This was to keep the communications open with them and our board, so we are both aware of upcoming proposals that might occur. Joanne suggested that we start by getting a copy of the planning agenda for their meetings that occur twice a month. Also, we should get a copy of the land use change application. Then, anything that comes to our attention that needs addressed, we can send our comments in writing to the planning commission. And Joanne suggested that the Planning Commission and HPC should get together and have a meeting, to get acquainted and discuss some concerns we all might have. Rich thought that a copy of the list of building permits would not be very helpful, but that anything going through the planning commission concerning alterations to the land, etc., would be more important to us. Mitch talked about the survey we are trying to get to have a list of all the sites in the County. This way we could prioritize any that are deteriorating and are in need of repair before we lose a chance to get them designated. And Mitch informed Joanne and Rich of our Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Gunnison and Crested Butte. We have a list of eight already designated in the County. Rich also suggested that we put ads in the newspapers that property owners need to come to us for historic designation. Also, our board explained some of the tax advantages that are available for designated historic site owners. Rich said that would help to have an incentive for property owners to put their sites on the register. Joanne suggested that we have a letter available to property owners that pick up building permits, informing them of

what HPC stands for and has to offer. And the County web site has planning information on it that could have a link to our site. Joanne said they could work on getting us an Intern to help with research.

Next, Lyda reported that she hasn't heard from Saguache regarding the Old Spanish Trail. She did say they have a nice web site, but the phone numbers are no good.

Also, Lyda told about contacting Joni Clark about the Legacy board and their members, as possibly being interested in putting historic sites on our register. We faxed a sample letter for her to take to the board for their approval. Joni is supposed to get back in touch with us.

Then, we talked about the Rim Rock School building. It is in Gunnison County, and the owner wants to use it (maybe) as a bed & breakfast. Because it's just inside the county line, it might be a good candidate for signage. Also, Ruth talked to Chuck Glaze, owner of Parlin Store (early 1900's), and she doesn't think he wants to put it on the register. It also might be good for signage, and maybe we could put it on the web site. Mac told about a Post Office up Cochetopa that Butch Kreuger owned, but the building has fallen down. It could have a sign.

Lyda reported on talking to the Buffingtons regarding the Fairview school on their property. She said they have it rented now, so not interested in designating or moving it at this time. They would like to see it moved to the property of the other Fairview school and restored. Also, they told her it would need some major work done on it.

It was decided for us to work on a different "Project of the Year". We talked about the brick school on West Tomichi. Also, the log house below Harmels was considered. Kathy will look these up.

Mitch talked to Molly Minneman. She loaned the survey report to Mitch for us to see what Crested Butte had done. Also, she gave him an example of what each building had for information on it. She knows of someone in CB South, Brian Levine, who worked on the Cripple Creek project. Mitch thought we could have him give us a presentation on doing a survey.

Mac asked what we really wanted to do as a "Project of the Year"? Should we fix up something? Or just help in raising money for the restoration? Mitch thought after we picked the project, we could decide what we need to do to help it. Maybe fence a site to keep animals out, so it does not deteriorate more. Lyda suggested to have an ad in the paper, to have people self-nominate their sites. This should include that the public is welcome to come to our meetings and find out what we are trying to accomplish. Also, have it read "that we are looking for a project (to bring attention to HPC), and all the benefits and opportunities that are available" for property owners of designated sites.

The City HPC has an application for nomination on the Museum Train exhibit. This application will be turned in to us by April 1. The City HPC will talk about it at their meeting on April 4. Next, the City Council will discuss it on April 11, and then we will have it presented to us on April 20. Also, the Museum will be getting 25 old cars from Delta. They have to house them, so the Museum is out getting donations to build a nice car barn.

Next, we talked about doing some more field trips. Maybe more than one per month. We will schedule some of these next meeting. Kathy can call everyone for last minute day and time decisions. One suggestion would be 1st and 3rd Saturdays.

Also, Kathy told about Molly Minneman wanting to set some ideas in motion for HP Week. She wanted to know if we still wanted it in September. Molly may put together workshops in June, but still coordinate the dinner in Sept. We should work closely with the City and their ideas (alley tour, yard signs, etc.), along with our quarry tour, storytelling, etc. Also, we have money left over for our tours. We could maybe use it for doughnuts and coffee.

Mac told about the brochure he has put together some items for. He has photos and narratives to put in it, about graves, etc. We all talked about how we would have it printed and folded. Lyda wants one to have historic outhouses, another one for schools, and maybe one for churches.

Kathy went over the rest of the mail. Mitch closed the meeting.

Bin Items:

The next regular meeting will be April 20, 2000.

Bring your ideas for field trips and dates to the next meeting. Also, bring ideas for HP Week.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR APRIL 20 MEETING:

1. Railroad Exhibit nomination
2. Pitkin Bon Ton Hotel nomination
3. Mac's brochures, etc.
4. Field trips (1st & 3rd Saturdays?)
5. HP Week ideas
6. Go over mail