

**Historic Preservation Board Mini-Retreat**  
Minutes – September 9, 2008

Present: Zebulon Miracle, Michael Menard, Harry Griff, Kathy Jordan, Bill Cort, Yvonne Piquette and Tom Streff

Also Present: Kathy Portner and Kristen Ashbeck, City Neighborhood Services; Clara Ziegler, Redlands Community Center, Inc. Board Member; and Jon Schler, Colorado Center for Community Development

The Board convened at 10:30 am at the Redlands Community Club. Guests and Harry Graff, new Board member from the Downtown Development Authority, were introduced.

**What's going on in other communities and where can Grand Junction go from here?**

**Presenter: Jon Schler, Colorado Center for Community Development**

Jon Schler presented an overview of Historic Preservation in Colorado including activities of the Colorado Historical Society (CHS), Colorado Preservation, Inc. (CPI), Colorado Community Revitalization Association (CCRA) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) that has a regional office in Denver. The ideas and projects summarized throughout the state included:

- Green and Sustainability
- Demolition Delay Provisions and Review of every demolition permit
- Design assistance for historic buildings
- Secondary building, Post-WWII and cemetery surveys
- Façade fix-up programs
- Web sites, use of technology, development of oral histories
- Red Mountain Project
- Hands-On Restoration Classes
- Reuse Feasibility Studies
- Public/Private Partnerships to renovate/restore/resell historic buildings
- Heritage Tourism Program

Jon also briefly discussed the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program. There are small grants available through the program that can be used to leverage larger grants through NTHP or CHS. CLG is a means of bringing a collective voice regarding historic preservation in a community. The Board discussed having Dan Corson, the CHS CLG liaison visit and speak in greater detail about the certification process. The potential for CLG status, particularly addressing the original square mile, should be included in the Downtown Plan that is currently being developed.

**History Overview and Tour of Redlands Club**

**Presenter: Clara Ziegler, Redlands Women's Club**

Clara Ziegler gave an interesting and lively presentation to the Board about the history of the Redlands Community Center, its ownership and its current state of renovation. Colorado Historical Society grants have been used in the past to assist with the restoration of the windows, exterior and the main interior meeting room. The restrooms in the building are need of modernization to bring them up to ADA compliance but grant funds cannot be used for the work. The Center is currently raising funds for that project.

After lunch, the Board summarized ideas for future projects or things the Board would like to keep informed about. Items on the lists below will be fine-tuned and discussed in greater detail at future Board meetings.

- **Certified Local Government (CLG)** – Downtown Plan and Invite Dan Corson to attend a future Board meeting
- **Tour of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Colorado Building (old Cheers)** – Kristen will follow up with the owner, Shane Burton
- **GSA** – Government initiative for restoration/rehabilitation for energy conservation
- **Governor's Energy Office**
- **School District** – Reuse and Redevelopment of Old Emerson School

One of the primary tasks of the Historic Preservation Board as outlined in the Zoning and Development Code is community education. The Board listed the following ideas/projects to be used as a means to educate the public about historic preservation.

- **Create a Library of Resources**
  - Website
  - Links
  - Museum
  - Where funding may be available
  - Books
  - NTHP Magazine
  - National Parks Service Tech Briefs
- **Create Audio Tours of Parts of the City**
  - Podcast, downloadable
  - Coordinate with Art on the Corner
  - VCB Link
- **Sustainability – the greenest building is an existing building**
  - Get information out (see library of resources above)
  - Watch for results of research that is going on now (NTHP)
- **History Article (Weekly in Daily Sentinel – already going)**
  - Highlight Properties
  - Highlight Preservation Techniques
- **Audience (Public trying to Educate)**
  - Realtors – emphasize positive selling points of historic buildings. Some contacts: Peter Robinson, Betty Fulton, Paul Harshman
  - Developers
  - Contractors
  - Property Owners
  - Schools
  - City – GIS Flag

- **Home and Garden Show**
- **Landscapes West Show**
- **2009 Historic Preservation Month**
  - Create a Geo Cache Scavenger Hunt (work with Museum)
  - Restoration Classes – Museum, sponsors, green emphasis (\$\$), contact Shane Burton
  - Home Tour
  - Where funding may be available
  - Books
  - NTHP Magazine
  - National Parks Service Tech Briefs

The Board decided regular meetings will continue to be the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month and held at the Museum of Western Colorado. Kristen announced that there is one Board opening as of December 2008 – Tom Streff’s position will be vacant as he is term-limited.

The retreat adjourned at 1:30pm.