

Historic Preservation Board Meeting

Minutes – May 15, 2007

Present: Tom Streff, Harold Stalf, Kathy Jordan, Bill Cort, Yvonne Piquette and Michael Menard

Not Present: Zebulon Miracle

Also Present: Kristen Ashbeck, City Public Works and Planning and Don Hobbs, City Parks and Recreation

SITE TOUR OF KENT, ALLEN and McCLINTOCK TOMB: The Board met at the site near the Orchard Mesa Cemetery with Don Hobbs of the City Parks and Recreation Department. The site is owned by the City and is located southeast of the Orchard Mesa Cemetery. Mr Hobbs explained that since the plots are not under a perpetual care agreement, the City does not maintain them as part of the Cemetery.

The plots are unusual and ornate by Grand Junction's standards with substantial stone walls surrounding them (I can provide photos if necessary). The tomb stones date from the 1880s to the 1950s. Some of the stones and walls around it are in disrepair. The families were very early settlers in the valley and were contemporaries and friends of City founder, George Crawford and relatives of McCune (first name not known at this time) who was a surveyor that platted the City of Fruita.

The Board discussed the significance of the site and options for further action on it. The consensus was that the Board would like to pursue historic designation for the site (which would require City approval as property owner) and pursue a grant for a preservation assessment of the stone elements through the Colorado Historical Society.

To start discussions, Kristen will draft a letter to be presented during the City's annual budget process for a small amount to match a grant application. Kathy Jordan will continue to research the significance of the families/plots. It was suggested that more research could be done with the Grasso family that may have done the masonry work. It was also suggested that someone from a present memorial business (e.g. Dan Carlson) be consulted to determine methods by which the tombs could be restored/maintained. Further discussions with Department Heads, the Parks Board and/or City Council may be needed in order to gain support for the Board taking on the project.

MINUTES OF APRIL 17, 2007 MEETING: Kathy Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2007 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously on a second by Michael Menard.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH RECAP: Kathy Jordan reported that the walking tour held on May 5, 2007 was not as well attended as in past years, likely due to inclement weather. However, the Board will be able to present a check to the Museum for proceeds in the amount of \$1,530.00. .

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.