

Historic Preservation Board Meeting

Minutes – February 6, 2001

Present: Bill Jones, Phil Born, Barbara Creasman, Ed Chamberlin
Not Present: Pat Gormley, David Bailey, Steve Schulte
Also Present: Kristen Ashbeck, Community Development Department

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm at City Hall in the Community Development Conference Room

MINUTES: Bill Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2000 meeting. Motion was passed on a second by Ed Chamberlin (4-0).

COLORADO'S MOST ENDANGERED PLACES LIST 2001: Kristen provided the Board with a brochure announcing this year's list. The Stranges Store was included on the final list. The Board discussed how the owner, Marge Montgomery, might be approached regarding future use of the building. The owner of the D&RGW Railroad Depot, Jim Leany, may be interested in purchasing the building.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH: The State of Colorado has elected to celebrate Historic Preservation Week for the entire month of May 2001. The Board discussed several ideas for activities this year including:

Annual Student Art Project. Phil Born reported that both Grand Junction and Central High Schools are already working on the project. Kristen stated that she has been approached by the Wingate Elementary School Art Committee to participate again this year. Also, Kristen will look into the possibility of the display being hung at City Hall this year.

Historic Preservation Award. The Board suggested two recipients for the 2001 award: Mesa County for the exterior renovation work on the Courthouse, and the Museum of Western Colorado for the Whitman School. Kristen will coordinate with the County and the Museum to schedule a time/date/place for the awards.

Lecture Series. Kristen stated that she had spoken to Andrew Gulliford of the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College. Mr. Gulliford had indicated a willingness to speak in Grand Junction, perhaps about the Uranium Boom days. Kristen will ask David Bailey to follow up on this. The Board suggested that perhaps a month-long series of events/lectures (suggested once a week) held at the Avalon could be arranged. Kristen will talk to the Mesa County Historical Society about the possibility of co-sponsoring an event again this year.

The Board also discussed the possibilities of combining Historic Preservation Month activities with other events going on downtown or throughout the Valley. One idea was to perhaps offer historic walking tours during the annual change of the Art on the Corner.

DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT: Kristen reported that the intern in the Community Development Department has completed an updated listing of property owners and put together a petition packet for mailing for each of the owners. Kristen wondered whether all packets should be mailed again with a cover letter from the Downtown Development Authority. Barbara thought that perhaps we could use the petitions that had already been received, double-check that ownership had not changed, and then only mail new petitions to those that had not yet signed or to those properties with new owners. Barbara will find a listing of and the petitions that had been received.

OCTOBER 2000 HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANTS: Phil reported that the 1st United Methodist Church had received a grant and Barbara reported that the DDA had also received a grant for façade restoration of the Reed Building.

WILLIAMS HOUSE GRANT: At the February 7, 2001 meeting, City Council will consider whether or not to submit a grant application to the Colorado Historical Society for a feasibility/assessment study of the Williams House. The grant amount requested would be \$10,000 with a \$2,000 match from the City.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.