

Historic Preservation Board Meeting Minutes – August 7, 2001

Present: Bill Jones, Phil Born, Louise Wagner, Dennis Pretti, David Bailey

Not Present: Pat Gormley and Barbara Creasman

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

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS: Newly-appointed members Louise Wagner and Dennis Pretti were introduced and Kristen briefly reviewed the primary purposes and activities of the Board.

SELECTION OF CHAIR: David Bailey nominated Bill Jones to the Board's Chair position, which was accepted unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION ON HISTORIC DESIGNATION – 685 CLYMER WAY: The Board discussed the overall integrity of the building and recollected some of the uses that had been in the Clymer Dairy vicinity over the years. Overall, the home is in good shape, has had very little modification, is a good example of this architectural style and retains its historic integrity.

Bill Jones made a motion to forward the designation to City Council with a recommendation of approval for the following reasons: 1) the structure is more than 50 years old; 2) exemplifies specific elements of an architectural style or period; and 4) enhances the sense of identity of the City. Louise Wagner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (5-0).

The Board inquired as to whether the City provides a plaque for the designated properties. Kristen stated that funds are not currently available for that type of recognition. The property owners are sent a letter and a copy of the City Ordinance that designates the property. However, other communities have plaque programs that Kristen will look into and report back to the Board.

2002 MOST ENDANGERED PLACES LIST: Kristen stated that Colorado Preservation, Inc. is soliciting nominations until September 1, 2001 for properties to be listed on the Most Endangered List. The Board felt that they had exhausted ideas for any nominations within the City but thought there could be some sites in Mesa County that they weren't aware of. Bill Jones stated that there was an upcoming meeting of the Mesa County Historical Society and he would bring it up to representatives from other areas of the County. Kristen said that the nomination information had been forwarded to Sally Crum of the US Forest Service who had said that there might be some barns in the Plateau Valley area that could be eligible for nomination.

OTHER PROJECTS UPDATE: Kristen reviewed some of the other projects going on in the City that were related to or had historic preservation components.

- **Reed Building** – The DDA had received a grant from the State Historical Fund to begin work on the façade of the building at 350 Main Street (formerly Dinosaur Valley). Kristen will have Barbara Creasman update the Board on the status of the project.
- **Williams House** – The City received a grant from the State Historical Fund to do a Historic Structure Assessment of the Williams House on the Jarvis property. Chamberlin Architects is to have a draft report to submit to the State on September 4, 2001 with a final report due November 4, 2001.
- **Westside Downtown Redevelopment Feasibility Study** – Mesa County and the Regional Transportation Planning Office received a grant from the Great American Station Foundation to do a study of the Railroad Depot area for its future use as a multimodal transportation hub (train, bus, taxi, transit). The City will help fund the study which will be expanded to a larger area between the railroad tracks and 4th Street and north to Main Street. The entire study will look at future land uses, pedestrian connections, adaptive reuse of historic structures and design guidelines. The Stranges Store, designated on the 2001 Most Endangered List is within the area. The study is scheduled to begin by late 2001/early 2002.
- **Grand Junction Cultural Plan Update** – Dennis, David and Kristen will be participating in a sub-committee focusing on the historic preservation component of the City's Cultural Plan being updated by the Arts and Cultural Committee. An initial meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2001.
- **Future Projects** – The Community Development Department 2002-2003 budget will include another phase of historic inventory to cover areas north and east of the original square mile and peripheral areas that have been annexed in the last few years. Staff will propose writing a grant to the State Historic Fund for a portion of the project costs.

OTHER: David Bailey informed the Board of the Colorado Historical Society's recent selection of the Museum of Western Colorado to receive the Stephen H. Hart award in recognition of the its outstanding contribution to historic preservation with the rehabilitation of the Whitman School. The official award will be presented at a meeting of the Colorado Historical Society on September 20, 2001.

The Board suggested that they would like to tour the Mesa County Courthouse to see what is being done. Kristen will contact Mesa County staff to set up a tour.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

