

Historic Preservation Board Meeting

Minutes - December 1, 1997

Present: David Bailey, Barbara Creasman, Greg Walcher, Phil Born, Pat Gormley

Not Present: Ed Chamberlin, Steve Schulte

Also Present: Kristen Ashbeck, Community Development Department; 2 Mesa State College students from John Rutherford's class - observing meeting

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm at the C.D. Smith Building.

MINUTES: Greg Walcher made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 1997 meeting. The motion passed unanimously on a second by Pat Gormley.

RECOMMENDATION ON LOCAL HISTORIC DESIGNATION - 464 MAIN STREET (DALBY-WENDLAND BUILDING): Greg Walcher wanted clarification as to who the owner, Community Office Investors, was. Pat Gormley stated that the company was comprised of the principals of the Dalby-Wendland Certified Public Accounting firm. Greg stated that, although the historic importance of this building is obvious, he was concerned that it seemed the owner had little interest in the designation since they did not provide much additional information about the building other than the inventory form completed for the Phase 1 Survey. Barbara Creasman stated that the fact that the owner had submitted an individual nomination rather than waiting for the district designation to proceed was some indication of their interest. The owner is interested in pursuing State Historical Fund grant moneys which involve a feasibility study as the first step. Part of the feasibility study would be to do further research on the history and architectural features of the building. Barbara and other Board members stated that the owner should be encouraged to replace the 1st floor windows that are not historically compatible. Pat Gormley pointed out that the inventory form should indicate that the building is associated with a notable person in the community. William Moyer was the First National Bank president/owner when the building was built by the bank. Moyer is well-known for his philanthropic activities in Grand Junction.

Pat Gormley 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; 3) is associated with a notable person within the community; and 4) is an established and familiar visual feature of the City. Greg Walcher seconded the motion which passed unanimously (5-0). The Board suggested to staff that some additional information be gathered from the Museum of Western Colorado and/or other sources for the file prior to sending the application on to City Council.

JOINT UTILIZATION COMMISSION TO STUDY REDEVELOPMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SITE: The City Council and County Commissioners recently agreed to appoint a group of citizens to work with the DOE to determine a potential future use for the DOE site on Orchard Mesa overlooking the Gunnison River. Phil Born and other Board members stated that there were several buildings and/or sites within the compound that would be

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of historical interest. The Board felt that the commission, when appointed, should be made aware of this potential or of the potential to interpret the site if it is necessary to demolish the buildings for environmental reasons. Greg Walcher has been involved with ongoing meetings on the subject and, although he will not be appointed to the commission, volunteered to keep up with the activities of the commission and report to the Board. Kristen will also try to find out more about the project from Robert Bray who was selected to head the commission.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: City Council will make appointments to the Board for the 3 expiring terms this month. Staff had recommended that the three existing members -- Steve Schulte, Greg Walcher and Ed Chamberlin -- be re-appointed.

OTHER: Barbara Creasman provided the Board with information regarding nominations to the State's "Most Endangered Buildings List". There was a suggestion to submit the Williams House on the Jarvis property--contact Barbara if anyone has any other suggestions.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.