



KOOTENAI COUNTY

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Minutes

September 20, 2023 – 3:30 p.m.

451 N. Government Way, Kootenai County Administration Building
Meeting Room 2, 1st Floor

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 pm by Chairperson Beebe.

1. Opening Protocol

Commissioner Brown offered opening protocol.

2. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Courtney Beebe, Russ Brown, Don Walters, Laurie Mauser. Walter Burns and Jon Mueller were excused.

3. Introduction of Guests

Michal Bennett with Kootenai County, coordinator of the Historic Preservation Plan, was in attendance.

B. Approval of Minutes (Action)

Commissioner Brown questioned Item C of the August 16, 2023 minutes and asked for clarification on the \$7,800 budget as to whether it was just for the Historic Preservation Commission and that it needs to be clarified. Commissioner Brown moved that the minutes be amended to be more clear. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walters. All approved the minutes with the change to clarify.

C. Business (Action)

1. Historic Preservation Plan Action Items and Progress

Chairperson Beebe introduced Michal Bennett to report what she have done on the Historic Preservation Plan and what needs to be done. Michal reported that the survey card is done and the web link is

live. The card has been sent out to all the county people. The primary action item is to get it out to the public and various organizations. The timeline is by the first of October for putting out the questionnaire and she is developing lists of prospects to receive it, e.g. architects, college, history and economics teachers and other groups.

Commissioner Mauser reported that she attended the Hayden Historic Preservation Commission, a CLG, and the questionnaire card was well received. Commissioner Brown reported that he attended the Spirit Lake Historical Society meeting at the Spirit Lake museum. They expressed interest in interacting with other historic groups and were receptive to the visit.

Michal Bennett and Commissioner Beebe met with the Spirit Lake Historic Preservation Commission under the city but they seem to be an “orphan” of the city with no staff member, but they do have an ordinance. They are focused on the restoration of the Woolen Brown Building, a former grade school which they want to restore and are working on funding. They want to apply for grant money but not sure of their status. They are in need of assistance for resources. Commissioner Beebe left them an NR eligibility form and a list of all recorded historic properties in Spirit Lake. They were interested in participating in our survey and helping with the Historic Preservation Plan and a city comprehensive plan and wanted guidelines for restoration.

Michal reported our goal for the survey is 500 responses/answers. She is also formatting some of the information gathered and would like lists of local historic preservation resources.

Commissioner Walters expressed interest in reaching out to schools to get student responses for the HP plan.

2. 2024 CLG Grant Projects

Chairperson Beebe reported we are still collecting potential grant worthy projects for next year’s application.

3. Next 100-Year Building to Display Banner

Use of our 100 Year banner was discussed and the Woolen Brown building was suggested. Commissioner Brown moved that the banner be moved to the Spirit Lake building and Commissioner Walters seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

4. Project Updates and Actions

-Update Cougar Gulch Multi-Property Historic District Application: Commissioner Beebe reported that the Peg Light Arabian Horse farm was selected by our consultant Sharon Boswell for the National Register nomination as part of the MPHD application. The survey is finished and Sharon will meet with four new property owners within the study area in November.

-Feeley / Jacklin Farm Survey (Mauser and Beebe): Commissioner Beebe reported an opportunity to meet with SHPO on October 22 in Post Falls to discuss our next step in the recording and NR eligibility evaluation process.

-Finucane / Lochaven Farm (Mauser): No progress has been made. It was learned at the Hayden Historic Preservation Commission meeting that the landowner may not be receptive to NR status for his property if it is the same landowner approached by the Hayden HPC several years ago.

-CDBG Grant & NI Centennial Trail (Mueller): Commissioner Mueller will offer an update at the next regular commissioner meeting.

5. Sharing Kootenai County History

There was no discussion.

6. New Projects or Activities or Events

Commissioner Beebe reported on the Idaho Heritage Trust Board of Directors “meet and greet” event, also attended by Commissioners Burns and Mauser, and suggested that she would like to talk with one with Katherine Kirk of the need for education of history groups and introduce what the Idaho Heritage Trust Foundation does. A get-together of all historical societies at a neutral location was discussed

and suggestion of a spring meeting. A spring meeting will give us time to prepare. Another suggestion was for a workshop on the eligibility form and/or structure to meet other county groups with talking points for educational material preparation and invite SHPO.

D. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

E. Adjourn (Action)

Commissioner Walters moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:49pm. Commissioner Brown seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Mauser, KCHP Commissioner