



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission

April 2021 Minutes

April 20, 2021 meeting held at the Log Cabin, Ft. Pierre, SD called to Order by President Hannum at 12:03pm.

In Attendance

President Sunny Hannum, Secretary Robert Kean, Deb Gates, Don Zeller; Pierre City Representative Matt Elberson; Ft. Pierre, Mayor Gloria Hanson.

Meeting working documents were distributed.

Volunteer hours were recorded

Approval of Minutes

The March 16, 2021, Corrected Revised Draft Commission Minutes were reviewed and there being no further additions or corrections, Deb Gates moved, Don Zeller seconded that the Minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Financial Planning Document Review

Commission Members reviewed the PFPHPC Financial Planning Document dated April 20, 2021 previously provided to the Commission Members by Commission Treasurer Kelly Waage. President Hannum added additional commentary regarding recent mail received by the Commission as reported by Treasurer Waage. Commission discussion included: approved billing invoices at the city offices but yet unpaid; resource amounts available by spending category for projects; status of projected spending category balances at the end of the grant period and amounts subject to reversion to the funding source for redistribution to other entities; and, determination by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) that its funds to the Commission cannot be used to support the contemplated mural at the former Hop Scotch building nor the effort being considered at the Cedar Hill Cemetery. Commission Member Don Zeller updated the Commission regarding his inquiry into a bill previously presented for payment by the Commission by R&M Signs. Upon further investigation, the bill in question was inadvertently sent to the Commission instead of the Verendrye Museum. The bill has been canceled by R&M and the invoice sent to the Commission will be ignored.

New Business: Cedar Hill Cemetery Walking Tour Plans

President Hannum presented information compiled by the archeological team that conducted an exploratory survey visit to the Cedar Hill Cemetery last year. The report stated that the development of a walking tour with associated materials including a brochure would be a good idea and aid in bringing attention to the site. It also noted that a historical sign with descriptive information on the significance of the site would be a good idea. Don Zeller noted that there is a sign on the site at this time but that it is made of plywood and does not contain the wealth of information usually found on a typical historical sign.

Ft. Pierre Mayor Gloria Hanson shared information on a number of projects that the City of Ft. Pierre is in the process of developing or actively pursuing including:

Cedar Hill Cemetery: People are still interest in being buried at Cedar Hill Cemetery. However, maps of the cemetery do not agree with existing records. Due to the confusion, no new burial plots are being authorized until the confusion is addressed. Historically, some of the confusion may have been caused when the Scotty Philip Cemetery began receiving internments and families decided to move family member remains to the new location without correcting existing records. Officials are considering new internments at Cedar Hill on a case-by-case basis. The recent survey, while beneficial and contributing, did not answer all the questions. Mr. Ken Stewart agreed to assist in this project and participants are looking forward to his involvement. Mayor Hanson advised that the focus should be on the interesting stories, not just a summary of who is interned.

Hop Scotch Mural: The proposed mural design to be placed on the side of the former Hop Scotch building is nearing completion. The building's new owner, Troy Erickson, is very enthused with the concept and offering building modifications to assist in the murals placement and illumination. A quote should be available by the Commission's next meeting for further discussion.

Bridge Plaza: Mayor Hanson shared visual information on the ideas that Ft. Pierre is considering to be included in the Ft. Pierre Plaza on the west side of the new Missouri bridge, currently under construction. Elements being considered included:

Statues: A Ft. Pierre statue committee is considering statutes of historically significant persons connected to the area to place at the plaza with the possibility of expanding the effort into the Ft. Pierre community.

Buffalo Sculpture: John Lopez from Rapid City has been commissioned to develop a buffalo sculpture for the plaza.

Waldron Memorial: Space in the plaza will be dedicated to the memory of John C. Waldron with enhanced visual effects relating to his heroism at the Battle of Midway.

Story Panels: The underside of the proposed bridge offers an opportunity to install narrative story panels that will share the rich history of the Ft. Pierre area.

The time frames for completion of these projects vary greatly since the bridge is probably not to be completely finished and dedicated until 2024. Each project will provide an opportunity to the PFPHPC to participate and contribute.

Approval of Invoices

The following Invoice and MOU were reviewed for approval:

M&R Signs: \$205.00 (refurbishing of Stockgrowers Bank sign)

City of Ft. Pierre: \$7,000.00 (Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for annual maintenance at the Verendrye Monument and Ft. Pierre Chouteau sites.

MOTION: Don Zeller moved, Deb Gates seconded that the Commission approve the presented Invoice and MOU and expend for their costs as follows; M&R Signs from Budget Expense Category 423 and the MOU from Budget Expense Category 432. Motion approved.

City Council Presentations

President Hannum reviewed the proposed schedule to present Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission updates to the Pierre and Ft. Pierre city commissions. The dates are as follows: Ft. Pierre; June 21, 2021 at 6:30pm and Pierre; June 22, 2021 at 5:30pm. Commission Members are welcome to attend.

SHPO Grant Expectations/Eligibility Projects

President Hannum reported that the SD State Historic Preservation Office shared that the Commission can expect to receive near the amount requested in the recent grant application. As noted earlier, the state office determined that its resources cannot be used for the proposed Ft. Pierre mural on the former Hop Scotch building or the Cedar Hill Cemetery.

MOU with City of Ft. Pierre

The Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Ft. Pierre for annual maintenance of the grounds of the Verendrye Monument and the Ft. Pierre Chouteau calls for a monitoring function to see that the work is actually done and satisfactory. Commission Member Don Zeller shared that in the past issues have arisen concerning the quality of the work and lack of picking up trash had to be brought to the attention of Ft. Pierre city maintenance personnel. Commission Members Kelli Buscher and Robert Kean in a previous meeting agreed to monitor the sites during the summer and report to the Commission. Kean will contact the SD State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) that funds the MOU to determine exactly what the expectation is regarding the scope and extent of monitoring and report back to the Commission.

Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Video Request

The Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail organization requested a short video introducing sites of interest in the Pierre/Ft. Pierre area to be incorporated in its national promotional and informational efforts. President Hannum and Don Zeller will prepare three video clips on April 21, 2021 and submit them.

Old Business: Board Member Vacancy

Commission Members discussed the current vacancy on the Commission and the range of background and experience to be considered of potential candidates. During earlier meeting discussion, President Hannum reviewed the founding documents of the Commission setting out qualifying factors such as number of Members, Members residence, and candidate for Membership's experiences and interests. It was suggested that two candidates for membership be considered to be prepared for future contingencies.

State History Conference

South Dakota State History Conference will be conducted virtually this year on April 23 – 24, 2021. Commission Members attending can have their registration fee reimbursed by submitting a reimbursement voucher to the Pierre city offices for payment.

Pierre Building Booklet

There is no update information to report at this time. Commission discussion noted the need to maintain a repository of information to prepare for the republication of the booklet that would hold suggestions for changes and corrections.

Publication Distribution Report

President Hannum reported that the printed material currently stored in the basement of the Log Cabin will be moved. Four boxes of Lewis & Clark Driving Tour booklets and one box of the Pierre Historic Homes booklets will be stored at Pierre city hall and available for distribution from there. Commission Member Don Zeller shared several efforts that he is involved with to distribute printed materials.

L&C Sign Installation Report

Commission Member Don Zeller reported that the final proofing efforts to complete the last sign in the series are near completion. Once completed, the signs will be printed and transferred to the city of Pierre for installation.

Other: Website Additions

Commission Members discussed putting additional pictures of interest on the Commission's website and the protocols to be used to maintain the purpose of the site and avoid clutter and confusion. Various formats were discussed such as, panoramic scenes and Before/After comparisons, for example of the Locke Hotel, and the need to have clear captioning accompanying the pictures.

Meeting Adjourned

President Hannum adjourned the meeting at 1:05pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at the Log Cabin, Ft. Pierre, SD.