

AURORA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
Tuesday, February 9, 2021
6:00 p.m.



Webex Virtual Meeting
Aurora, CO

Present: Chair Gordon Tucker, Vice Chair Elizabeth Hamilton, Secretary Lynne Evans, Michael Lockwood, Courtney Morehouse, Megan Berens, Michael Ackman, Barbara Henk, and Charlie Peters

Excused: Thomas Terpening III

Staff: Drake Brownfield, Scott Williams, Jacob McDonald

Guests: Garry O'Hara, Erica Duvic

I. Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chair Gordon Tucker called the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC or Commission) meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

The minutes from the HPC regular meeting on January 12, 2021 were approved via motion.

II. Staff Report

Historic Preservation Specialist (HPS) Drake Brownfield introduced Erica Duvic, Certified Local Government Coordinator (CLG) at History Colorado to the HPC. Ms. Duvic attended the HPC meeting to evaluate the HPC as a CLG. Drake then gave his report to the Commission.

Section 106 reviews: No historic properties affected.

Museum Programs: The HPC was given an overview of the current programs offered by the Aurora History Museum.

Landmark Brochures: The landmark brochure updates are almost completed.

QR Codes: QR codes have been implemented at DeLaney Farm and are now active.

Geo Caches: Geo caches have been placed at Centennial House, Hornbein Building, and the Bicentennial Art Center. The Geo cache information will be added to the new landmark brochure.

Online Landmark Map: The online landmark map has been updated to reflect the new landmarks and Cultural Heritage sites.

DAR Grant: Drake stated that he should hear by May 1, 2021 whether or not the DAR Grant submitted for the Loafing Shed Corral has been approved.

CLG Review: The pre-application process for the CLG review went smoothly.

Budget: The current budget is \$6,600. No new costs incurred.

III. Old Business

Red Cross Project: Drake thanked the HPC for its input on the Red Cross Project signage. The HPC would like to see a ceremony planned when the installation is complete in the Fall of 2021.

Lowry 880: Former commissioner Chris Geddes would like to continue to be involved in the Lowry 880 building signage.

Firehouse #5: Historic Preservation Assistant Jacob McDonald conducted two oral history interviews connected to Firehouse #5.

Fox Signage: The project is progressing.

KOA Building: The CDOT has updated the site form and no signage is currently included. Signage may be considered at a later date in conjunction with the Highline Canal Conservancy.

Oral History: The museum is continuing with requests for oral histories. One topic on which they would like to conduct interviews is the mid-century Cold War

Saving Places Conference: The conference is virtual on February 10-12, 2021. Registered commissioners are required to attend at least 3 sessions and report back to the group about the sessions.

Newspaper Digitization: The city applied for a grant and should know if the grant was approved in the next few weeks. The Aurora Historical Society has received donations of \$500 for the digitization project.

Royal Villa Cottage Court HABS Assessment: Commissioner Henke has made sketches of the buildings. The HPC will fund the Level II HABS Assessment.

Windler Homestead: Barn may be considered for adaptive reuse.

Coal Creek School: Public Works is meeting with the contractor to complete needed photos which will then be forwarded to the engineer to demonstrate adherence to the drawings so that the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) can be obtained.

Subcommittee Reports: Events Subcommittee: Historic photos of Billie Preston and Patches may be used to create "Flat Patches." Flat Patches can then be taken to visit historic sites. Other "Flat" personas may be developed as well.

Ward Meetings: No commissioners attended ward meetings.

Site Plan Report: Commissioner Tucker gave his site plan report on the Smoky Hill Region which includes Melvin School, Melvin-Lewis Cemetery, Smoky Hill Trail Historic Marker, and the Toll Gate Creek Archaeological Site. At the Melvin-Lewis Cemetery, a concrete block on the perimeter wall has been dislodged and is ready to fall. At the Melvin School there is damage on the north side of the building, and a window is broken on the east side of the building. Smoky Hill Trail and Toll Gate Creek signage are in good condition.

IV. New Business

Current Subscriptions: A motion was made by Commissioner Peters to continue the current subscriptions the HPC receives. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ackman and passed by voice vote.

Items from commissioners:

Items for the March 9, 2021 meeting will include:

- Update on Red Cross Project
- Update on Lowry Building 880 Interpretive Signage
- Update on the Coal Creek CO
- Update on Oral History Project
- Update KOA Building Signage Opportunity
- Update on Fire Station #5 Landmarking Nomination
- Update on the Fox Signage SHF Grant
- Update on the Aurora Newspaper Digitization Project
- Update on HABS Assessment for Royal Villa Motor Court
- Update on the Windler Homestead
- Update on the Saving Places Conference

- Update on the DAR Historic Grant Application
- Subcommittees reports: Events
- Site Plan Report: Commissioner Hamilton- Eastern Aurora
- Report on Wards meetings

V. Adjournment:

The Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Submitted by: Lynne Evans Date: February 22, 2021

Approved by:  Date: 03/09/2021