

AURORA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
Tuesday, March 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, Barbara Henk, and Charlie Peters

Excused: Michael Ackman

Staff: Drake Brownfield, Scott Williams

Guests: Mike Rosser, Harriet LaMair

I. Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chair Gordon Tucker called the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC or Commission) meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

The minutes from the HPC regular meeting on February 9, 2021 were approved via motion.

II. Highline Canal and Conservancy History Presentation

Mike Rosser and Harriet La Mair gave a presentation to the HPC. The Highline Canal Conservancy was started 6 years ago to address issues concerning the historic Highline Canal and to reimagine its future, repurpose, and preserve the 71-mile Highline Canal. A historic survey was done in 2016 of all 71 miles. The survey was done by bike and 191 resources were identified. The next step is to develop a long-range interpretive plan for the Highline Canal. Some portions of the canal are threatened by development.

III. Staff Report

Historic Preservation Specialist (HPS) Drake Brownfield gave his report.

Section 106 reviews: No historic properties affected. HPC President Tucker stated that Jeffery Harrison from Buckley AFB should be invited to speak to the HPC about Buckley's future plans. Artifacts from Buckley and other sites will be coming to the Aurora History Museum.

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. A cover is all that is currently needed.

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. The city is going to fund the work and has already started. It should be completed before the next HPC meeting. If the DAR Grant is awarded, the city will be reimbursed.

CLG Review: The pre-application process for the CLG review went smoothly. The HPC needs to brainstorm goals for 2021.

Budget: The current budget is \$6,435.05 The *Atomic Ranch* subscription was paid.

III. Old Business

Red Cross Project: No update.

Lowry 880: No update.

Firehouse #5: Historic Preservation Assistant Jacob McDonald conducted two oral history interviews connected to Firehouse #5. The future of the building is in flux. It may be used by the city for the PROS department, or it could be sold. The city may not support a historic designation at this time.

Fox Signage: The project is progressing. An extra year has been added to the grant because of COVID-19 delays. The HPC will be notified when a project manager is assigned.

KOA Building: 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

Newspaper Digitization: No update. An action item will be added to the April agenda to vote on spending some of the HPC funds on this project.

Royal Villa Cottage Court HABS Assessment: Commissioner **Henk Henke DLB Amend, 4.14.2021** is working on drawings.

Windler Homestead: A historic designation for the site may possibly resume for one or more of the buildings. It depends on the city's rezoning plans.

Coal Creek School: Drake says he will probably have to get architectural drawings done on Coal Creek in order to get the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) for the building.

Subcommittee Reports: Events Subcommittee: The Flat Patches plan is progressing. Social media will be a strong component of the campaign. A sub-page may be developed for the Museum's website.

Ward Meetings: No commissioners attended ward meetings.

Site Plan Report: Commissioner Hamilton gave her site plan report on eastern Aurora. **KOA Building** could use a clearly defined front entrance to the building. A downspout is not working and causing discoloration to the brick. Drake will touch base with the building managers. It is probably a clog on the roof. **Victory Grange's** parking lot is being used as a food court. Window screens need to be replaced. The area needs to be cleaned up. **Mission Viejo** neighborhood in transition. Overall, the area is doing well. The streetlights are fashioned like mission bells. The Cultural Heritage sign is located at the library. The area may eventually be designated as a historic district.

IV. New Business

A motion was made by Commissioner Morehouse to reimburse Commissioner **Henk Henke DLB Amend, 4.14.2021** for art supplies for a cost of \$30.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton and passed by voice vote.

Items from commissioners: None

Items for the April 13, 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 DAR Historic Grant Application
- Subcommittees reports: Events
- Site Plan Report: Commissioner Morehouse – DeLaney Farm Historic Region
- Report on Wards Meetings
- Election of Officers

V. Adjournment:

The Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Submitted by: Lynne Evans Date: March 26, 2021

Approved by:  Date: **April 14, 2021**