

AURORA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
Tuesday, May 10, 2022
6:00 p.m.



Community Gallery
Aurora History Museum
15051 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO

Present: Chair Elizabeth Hamilton, Vice Chair Mike Ackman, Secretary Lynne Evans, Gordon Tucker, Barbara Henk, Charlie Peters, Lynda Heckendorn, and Todd McMahon

Excused: Courtney Morehouse

Staff: Drake Brownfield, Scott Williams, Katie Leeper

Guest: Garry O'Hara

I. Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chair Elizabeth Hamilton called the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC or Commission) meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The minutes from the HPC regular meeting on April 12, 2022, were approved via motion.

II. Staff Report

Historic Preservation Specialist Drake Brownfield gave his report.

Section 106 reviews: No historic properties adversely affected.

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

Geo Cache: A geo cache has been placed at the Fox Arts Center.

Centennial House: Bathroom renovations for the downstairs bathroom at Centennial House are stalled while waiting for city Facilities Department coordination.

Education Outreach Campaign for City Council: Historic Sites Office may coordinate with Library and Cultural Services to reach out to Aurora City Council members. Ward 5 is meeting at 10:30 am at the Mission Viejo Library on May 21.

Commissioners reappointed: Commissioner Evans, Hamilton, and Tucker were reappointed to the HPC by City Council on May 9th.

Windler Project: No update.

Highline Canal: Narrative for signage is completed. Construction on the High Line Canal will begin in October or November. The two signs will measure 2 x 3 feet and will be located on the High Line Canal 1) west of East 22nd Ave/Tower Road and 2) north of I-70. The construction is projected to take 8 months. Estimated completion date is during the summer of 2023. The SHF grant will be reviewed in mid-June.

Fox Theatre: Seating is still to be reviewed. Work on the sign grant should start soon.

Budget: The current budget is \$6,368.64.

III. Old Business

Red Cross Project: The project is complete, and a dedication is planned for June.

Lowry Building 880 Interpretive Signage: The alumni group will pay for the signage.

Phone Booths for Oral History: Heritage Window Restoration is working on the remaining oral history phone booths after completing the first one.

Historic Coloring/Activity Book Project: Pre-Contact and Native American history has been removed from the original book. A separate book will cover the Pre-Contact and Native American history. The coloring book will be ready and presented to the Aurora Museum Foundation at their June meeting.

Melvin School: Historic Preservation Specialist Drake Brownfield and Commissioner Morehouse took a tour of Melvin School led by Garry O'Hara. The interior of the school is in excellent condition, but the exterior needs repairs.

Melvin-Lewis Cemetery: Drake Brownfield asked about placing interpretive signage at the site. There are new owners. He is still waiting to hear back.

Arvada Trolley: The Arvada Trolley is having an opening dedication. Some Commissioners might want to attend to show support for the project.

Mission Viejo: Still trying to figure out the number of homes needed for a historic district

Ward Meetings: No update.

Site Plan Report: Commissioner Peters- KOA Building, Cultural Heritage sites- Victory Grange and Mission Viejo Library. The KOA Building is well maintained. Victory Grange-The wood on the exterior of the building is not in good shape, and the site is littered. Mission Viejo Library is in good shape.

Site Plan-August: Commissioner Peters is willing to do the August Site Plan - Galena Street

IV. New Business

Historic Preservation Specialist Drake Brownfield: HPS Drake Brownfield is leaving the Aurora History Museum. A going away party will be planned for the first week of June.

HPC Social: A social event for the HPC is being planned for July 12th. More information to follow.

Aurora Reservoir: The Senac Dam site (5AH.380) site is located on the Aurora Reservoir property. It could be considered for a landmark designation.

Items for the August 9, 2022, meeting will include:

- Update on Lowry Building 880 Interpretive Signage
- Update on the Activity/Coloring Book
- Update on the Fox Signage SHF Grant
- Update on Melvin School and Cemetery Status
- Update on Mission Viejo as a historic district
- Update on Senac Dam Site landmark nomination
- Oral history update
- Report on Wards Meetings
- Site Plan Report:
- Food: Commissioner

V. Adjournment:

The Commission adjourned its meeting 7:38 p.m.

Submitted by: Lynne Evans Date: May 28, 2022

Approved by:  Date: 6-14-2022