

AURORA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

6:0 p.m.



Library

**Aurora History
Museum**

**15051 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO**

Present: Chair Elizabeth Hamilton, Secretary Lynne Evans, Lynda Heckendorn, Todd McMahon, Emma Bertrand

Excused: Barbara Henk, Charlie Peters, Vice Chair Mike Ackman

Staff: Scott Williams

Guests: Laura MacDonald

The Historic Preservation Commission presented Dave Heflin with the Elizabeth Johnson Award before the HPC meeting began.

I. Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chair Elizabeth Hamilton called the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC or Commission) meeting to order at 5:54 p.m.

The minutes from the HPC regular meeting on March 14, 2023, were approved as distributed via motion.

II. Staff Report

Museum Director Scott Williams gave the staff report.

Section 106 reviews: Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is planning improvements to the intersection of 11th Avenue/Havana Street/and Del Mar Parkway. Aurora Chase Chapel, built in 1966 is eligible as a city landmark. The construction could be detrimental to the Chase Chapel.

Compliance: No items to report

Museum Programs: The HPC was given an overview of the current programs offered by the Aurora History Museum. The Morning at the Museum program Wednesdays at 10:30 am is quite popular. Home school student day at the Museum is also popular.

Historic Preservation Specialist Position: Interviews have begun for this position. There are currently five candidates.

Jamaica School: Museum Director, Scott Williams reached out to Josh Hensley from Aurora Public Schools. An answer is expected shortly from Mr. Hensley about a local landmark for the school.

Highline Canal: Cultural Heritage Site designation is on hold until the city attorney approves it.

Windler: No update.

Budget: \$150 was spent on membership in the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions. Budget stands at \$6,450. Cost of the plates for the plaque and the Cake for Dave Heflin's Elizabeth Johnson Award was \$80.00.

III. Old Business

Fox Theatre SHF Grant: A grant extension request until May 2024 has been filed. Design proposal requests are being solicited.

Senac Site (5AH.380): The Landmark Nomination will be presented to a study session of the city

council. The date of the study session needs to be confirmed.

Lowry Building 880 Interpretive Signage: No update.

Pre-Contact Book Project: The project has been started. A draft will be sent out for review soon.

Phone Booths for Oral History: No Update

Fitzsimons Building 500 & Chapel Landmark Nominations: No update.

Melvin School and Melvin Lewis Cemetery: Scott is still trying to contact Sperry Commercial Properties management company for the cemetery. A structural planning grant is being planned for Melvin School. Scott will follow up with Cherry Creek Schools to see if the 2023 goals for Melvin School will happen.

Fitzsimons Golf Course Lightning Structures: Spring Hill Golf Course will take the Lightening Structure, but they won't fund the move or installation of the structure.

Mission Viejo: Designation of this area has been tabled until after a historic survey is completed.

Dam East & West: The Cultural Heritage Designation is on hold until after a survey is performed.

Colorado Freedom Memorial: The designation of the CFM as a Cultural Heritage Site is approved.

Centennial House: A Historic Structures Assessment grant is being written for Centennial House. Facilities is trying to get a cost estimate for the bathroom remodel at Centennial House.

Ward Meetings: No update

The regular HPC meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

7:00 pm a joint study session of the Lakewood and Aurora Historic Preservation Commissions convened.

The Lakewood and Aurora HPC's were introduced to one another.

Aurora Commissioner, Todd McMahon talked about possible designations for sites along Colfax Avenue in Aurora. The list included: Colonel's Row in Fitzsimons, Rapid Bus Transit study from Broadway in Denver to Yosemite and 225 including enhanced stations. A few motels, service stations, Friend's Furniture, Fitzsimons Chapel, and Building 500.

Lakewood HPC presented some ideas: Casa Bonita, Lakewood West Colfax Safety Project, and others.

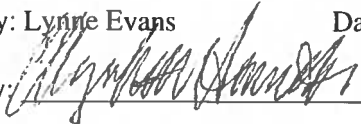
Items for May 9, 2023, agenda will include:

- Update on Lowry Building 880
- Update on Fox Signage SHF Grant
- Update on Precontact Book Project
- Update on Senac Site (5AH.380) Landmark Nomination
- Oral History Update & Demo of Phone Booths
- Chapel and Fitzsimons Building 500 Landmark Nominations
- Update on Melvin School and Melvin Lewis Cemetery
- Mission Viejo Historic District
- Jamacia School National Registry
- Highline Canal Signage
- Discussion on Lightning Shelters on Fitzsimons Golf Course Relocation

IV. Adjournment

The Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Lynne Evans Date: May 7, 2023

Approved by:  Date: 5-9-23

