



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission

August 2022 Minutes

August 16, 2022, meeting at the Log Cabin, Ft. Pierre, SD called to Order by President Zeller at...pm.

In Attendance

Commission Members: President Don Zeller, Treasurer Donna Leslie, Secretary Robert Kean, Sunny Hannum, Alan Haarstad

Guests: Doug Mortenson, Buddy Seiner

Meeting working documents and handouts were referred to and reviewed including a booklet published by Fort Pierre Tourism and an informational printout from the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Experience organization

Commission Members Volunteer Hours were recorded.

Approval of Minutes

The July 19, 2022, Revised Draft Commission Minutes were reviewed. There being no further additions or corrections, Sunny Hannum moved, Alan Haarstad seconded, that the PFPHPC July 2022 Minutes be approved and distributed as presented. Motion Passed.

Financial Planning Document Review

Commission Members reviewed the PFPHPC Financial Planning Document and accompanying supporting materials previously provided to Commission Members prior to the meeting by Commission Treasurer Donna Leslie. The August 11, 2022, Financial Planning Document was accompanied by the Final Report on the SD State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) grant for 2021 which expired on May 31, 2022, for reference as needed. In addition, the supporting materials provided an update on changes to budget items previously discussed noting that the previously approved motion to apply to the SD Humanities Council is on hold because the speaker did not present due to scheduling challenges during the Trader Days event and the printing invoice for the reprinting of the Ft. Pierre Historic Homes/Buildings has been paid. The supporting materials also provided details regarding expenditures to date, unobligated balances and noted variables yet due such as membership dues, website hosting, conferences that will need to be considered throughout the remainder of the fiscal year. Commission Members further discussed the preference that expenditures of Commission resources be paid by invoices through third party vendors whenever possible to avoid the

appearance of an impropriety. During discussion, it was agreed from Members' experiences that the invoice preference will not inhibit Commission Member participation in activities and reimbursement processes are flexible to address contingencies.

Old Business : Cedar Hill Cemetery Booklet Report

Commission Member Sunny Hannum reported that the text for the Cedar Hill Cemetery booklet is ready to be submitted to the printer and is awaiting the gravesite map overlay. Hannum will send out the booklet to Commission Members for review. The gravesite map overlay will be sent out separately when completed. Mr. Doug Mortenson, a member of the Cedar Hill Cemetery Board updated the Commission on the Board's recent activities. The Cedar Hill Cemetery Board was created by the city of Ft. Pierre to oversee the restoration and future usage of the cemetery. The Board's long-range plans for restoration are awaiting the completion of a new site survey and it is currently seeking resources to have one completed. The Cemetery Board found the existing survey documents challenging and not complete due to several reasons including confusing and not clearly defined notations and missing survey markers. A potential source of funds to complete a survey looks promising because Civil War veterans are buried in the cemetery. Hannum also reported on information she found regarding an AmeriCorps initiative that could be an additional restoration resource. AmeriCorps designs projects to restore cemeteries including cleaning up the area, vegetation removal and resetting grave markers. Commission Members further discussed public domain systems that contain gravesite location and searching capabilities.

State & Tribal Grant Opportunities Review

Nothing to report at this time.

Commission Booklet Orders Update

Commission Members discussed the number of Pierre Historic Homes and Ft. Pierre Historic Homes/Building booklets available for distribution and their location. Further discussion included current and potential booklet distribution patterns in the Pierre/Ft. Pierre communities and Members consenting to monitoring the booklet distribution and reprinting them as needed. Commission Member Sunny Hannum shared a booklet developed and distributed by the Fort Pierre Tourism organization entitled, "You're Invited to Tour Our Hometown." The booklet provides a variety of information on the history of Ft. Pierre and includes QR codes for historic sites, events, recreation, eating and lodging.

Ft. Pierre Chouteau Bike Path

Commission Member Robert Kean updated the Commission on the effort to have a bike path route painted onto Ft. Chouteau Road from the current bike path paralleling Highway 1806 where it crosses Ft. Chouteau Road to the Chouteau site. The work remains scheduled to be completed this summer with the specific time dependent on availability of work crews.

HPC Vacancy

Commission Members discussed a variety of avenues to generate public interest in becoming a Member of the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission. It was noted that there are many opportunities to share Commission information, advertise and promote its activities at reoccurring events in the Pierre/Ft. Pierre communities. Several venues were discussed including events like Trader Days, social clubs like Kiwanis and

events designed for the purpose of introducing and promoting programs and services, such as those done through the Chambers of Commerce and tourism offices. While discussing how best to prepare and staff a visually attractive and informative booth, developing an organizational banner was mentioned. During further discussion, by consensus, it was decided that the Commission participate in the September 1, 2022, First Thursday event at Lilly Park in Ft. Pierre sponsored by Fort Pierre Tourism.

MOTION: Donna Leslie moved, Sunny Hannum seconded, that Commission funds, up to the amount of \$30.00 be expended from Budget Expense Category #439 to cover costs of registration, if any, to the September 1, 2022, First Thursday event sponsored by Fort Pierre Tourism. Motion passed.

Verendrye Monument/Ft. Pierre Chouteau Monitoring

Commission Member Robert Kean reported on the July monitoring visit to the Verendrye Monument and Ft. Pierre Chouteau sites conducted on July 28, 2022. The Commission conducts monitoring visits to review the maintenance and upkeep of the sites during June, July, and August. The Commission visits are conducted to comply with a contract between the Commission and the city of Ft. Pierre Public Works Administration for site maintenance. During the monitoring visit, discussion continued regarding the deteriorating signs, sinking sidewalks and moving signage posts to the edge of the sidewalk for ADA compliance at the Verendrye Monument. Mr. Rick Hahn, Director of the Ft. Pierre Public Works Administration had previously indicated that a request for bid would be sent out to replace the sidewalks in question rather than attempt to reposition the current sidewalks back into place and expects to hear back from the contractor prior to the August monitoring visit on August 18, 2022. The signposts are to be moved during August. New signs will be needed and discussions as to covering the costs involved and who will redo the signs are ongoing. Commission President Zeller indicated that he will investigate options available for the new signs. At the Ft. Pierre Chouteau site, Ft. Pierre Mr. Hahn and Lanny Hoffer stated that the weeds will be cut back further along to fence line to create a better appearance of the site. Further discussion included exploring the benefits of installing a hard surface on the pathway from the entrance to the Chouteau to the commemorative tablets, posting "No Hunting" signs on the sites perimeter and installing a counting mechanism to the entrance to monitor attendance. Commission Members were invited to the August 18, 2022, monitoring visit.

New Business : Tales on The River Venue for Humanities Speakers

Commission Member Sunny Hannum provided background information on the Tales on the River program conducted through the Short Grass Arts Council organization. The program, held every Thursday June through August at the Moose Lodge, Ft. Pierre, provides a variety of topics with some speakers from the South Dakota Humanities Council Speakers Bureau. Commission Members discussed remaining in contact with the program and look for opportunities to promote a Lewis & Clark themed presentation. Sunny has emailed the Shortgrass Arts Council to see if this is a possibility next year.

Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Experience

Commission Member Sunny Hannum reported that she participated in an interview with the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Experience organization on a variety of topics dealing with Ft. Pierre. The interview was incorporated with other material to create a blog featuring Ft. Pierre. Hannum shared a printout of the website setting out areas of interest and why Ft. Pierre should be on everyone's Great Plains itinerary.

Steamboat Park

Commission meeting guest, Buddy Seiner, Pierre, updated the Commission on activities related to the restoration efforts at Steamboat Park in Pierre. A significant portion of the park space was taken for the construction of the new Pierre water treatment plant that is to come on-line in 2023. In conjunction with the completion of the water plant, the city of Pierre is planning to revisit the purpose, design, and functionality of Steamboat Park. To assist in this effort, a citizen advisory committee has been formed to work with the Pierre city Department of Parks and Recreational Services on project elements. Mr. Seiner, a member of the advisory committee, further described the activities undertaken to date, the ongoing challenges faced by the various participating entities in the effort due to shifting timelines, interests and resources, and the desire to seek out partners to assist and consider contributing to the park's development as appropriate. In Commission discussion, Members shared the purpose, scope, and typical activities of the Commission, noting that several informational signs in Steamboat Park were placed there by the Commission. It was agreed that there may be further opportunity for the Commission to participate in the restoration effort and asked that Mr. Seiner please keep the Commission informed of developments and invited him to update the Commission at future meetings.

Meeting Adjourned

President Zeller adjourned the meeting at 1:15pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 12pm, noon at the Log Cabin, Ft. Pierre, SD.