



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Historic Preservation Commission

August 2021 Minutes

August 17, 2021 meeting at the Log Cabin, Ft. Pierre, SD called to Order by President Hannum at 12:01pm

In Attendance:

President Hannum, Secretary Robert Kean, Don Zeller, Donna Leslie, Deb Gates, Kelli Buscher, Alan Haarstad, City of Pierre Representative Matt Elbersen.

Meeting working documents were noted and distributed.

Volunteer contributed hours were recorded.

New Commission member introduction:

New Commission Member, Alan Haarstad, Pierre, was introduced and ensuing discussion included an informational sharing by Commission Members regarding the functions, processes, typical activities and supporting documentation used in the conduct of the Commission's affairs.

Approval of Minutes

The July 2021 Revised Draft Commission Minutes were reviewed. There being no further additions or corrections, Don Zeller moved, Deb Gates seconded that the July 20, 2021 Minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Financial Planning Document Review

Commission Members reviewed the PFPHPC Financial Planning Document dated August 17, 2021 that was previously provided to the Commission Members by Commission Treasurer Kelly Waage. In addition, the Commission also received a financial document entitled, "Expired Grant" reflecting the detailed grant expenditures from the Budget Expense Category previously entitled "432." It was noted that the new grant funds from the SD State Historical Society 2021 Grant have been assigned the Budget Expense Category Number, "439" for accounting and payment purposes. Ensuing Commission discussion included review of funds sources for the year, matching hours requirements, time frames within which to expend the funds, dedicated purposes allowed/required by the various fund sources, and, status of contracts.

New Business: Donovan Sprague Engagement/Tour Report

Commission Members who attended Mr. Sprague's presentation and site tour shared impressions of the two events. Mr. Sprague, who is a direct descendant of Hump, Black Buffalo and Crazy Horse presented on August 13 at Lilly Park in Ft. Pierre. He presented an overview of notable persons, encounters and events that took place in the Pierre/Ft. Pierre areas including the purpose and importance of the winter counts, Native American lineage, Lewis and Clark, George Catlin, and saving the buffalo. On August 14, he escorted a group on a tour of Medicine Butte and the Snake Effigy east of Pierre and the Arzberger Arikara site southeast of Pierre. The

public response to both events was very positive including requests to the Commission to consider similar events in the future. President Hannum will write a thank you note to the property owners for allowing access to their property to view the Medicine Butte/Arikara sites. Commission discussion also reviewed the logistics involved with the effort and unanticipated costs involved to meet the needs of the presentation and site visits. River Cities Transit will bill directly to the City of Pierre. Included in the discussion was a confirmation that Commission Member Don Zeller shared the potential cost of a portable loudspeaker system for the events and received a prior consensus from Commission Members to incur the expense.

MOTION: Kelli Buscher moved, Donna Leslie seconded that the Commission approve the prior consensus and direction given to Commission Member Don Zeller to incur the expense of a portable loudspeaker system for the Donovan Sprague events and to reimburse Don Zeller from the Budget Expense Category Number 439 as follows for his expenses related to these events: Oahe Pawn (PA system) \$79.88; Walmart (water/ice) \$11.33. Motion passed.

Cedar Hill Cemetery Committee Report

The Commission's Cedar Hill Cemetery Committee (CHCC) corresponded with Ken Stewart to share information on the work done to date to research, assemble information and strategize tasks, division of effort and time frames to complete a booklet on Cedar Hill Cemetery. Mr. Stewart shared his vision, avenues of research and approach to the effort including the development of a "significant personages" list from original sources and identifying specific grave locations among the 500+ gravesites. The CHCC has received a list of those interred from Betsey DeLoache that could also be referenced in developing a focus of what to highlight in a publication. Commission Member Haarstad asked to be added to the committee. The Commission further discussed how best for CHCC to move forward with its efforts while collaborating with Mr. Stewart as he conducts his research to avoid confusion and duplication of effort and to assist him with tasks that he may find challenging such as physically confirming the gravesite locations. The consensus of the Commission is to keep the Cedar Hill Cemetery project a priority with a timeframe.

MOTION: Kelli Buscher moved, Deb Gates seconded that Mr. Stewart be contacted to offer the Commission's assistance with mapping, research, and other on-site activities such as grave location, grave verification and grave inventory and request that Mr. Stewart keep the Commission up to date on a regular basis, at least quarterly, regarding progress of this effort. Motion passed

Inspection Report – Verendrye & Ft. Pierre Chouteau Sites

Commission Members Kelli Buscher and Robert Kean shared impressions of the July 22, 2021 site inspection of the Verendrye Monument and Ft. Pierre Chouteau. The inspection is required by the maintenance agreement between the Commission and the City of Ft. Pierre. The sites remain well maintained, grass is cut, garbage is removed, flags are in good condition and no paper, cans or bottles were seen lying about. One new issue was noted: an underground sprinkler leak at the Verendrye Monument caused a portion of the sidewalk surrounding the site to noticeably sink causing a potential tripping danger. The condition was noted by the City of Ft. Pierre personnel accompanying the inspection. It was also noted that some brush abatement was not done at the Ft. Pierre Chouteau site. The next inspection is scheduled for August 26 at 4pm starting at the Verendrye Monument.

Verendrye Monument/Ft. Pierre Chouteau Sign Restoration

During the 2021 summer inspection of the Verendrye Monument and Ft. Pierre Chouteau, it was noted that signs (2 at Verendrye site; 5 at Ft. Pierre Chouteau site) were deteriorating due to exposure to the elements. The

Commission will assume the responsibility to oversee having the signs replaced. President Hannum shared that communications with the SD State Historic Preservation Office indicate that the state offices will assist with costs of replacement. Replacement will require a review of any sponsorships that are on the signs and the addition of QR codes. The sign images should be available on a state database repository. Commission Don Zeller will begin assembling information on this project. At this stage of the effort, no motion to approve expenditure of funds is warranted.

Old Business: Reprinting Pierre Historic Homes Booklet

Commission Members reviewed previously discussed changes to the booklet cover format to continue to create a uniform brand look to Commission publications. Commission Member Kelli Buscher will make the noted changes to the Pierre Historic Homes booklet. Upon completion, President Hannum will order the reprint with Merriman Printing.

Other: Commission Office Terms

President Hannum referred to the list of Commission Members and their terms of office handed out to Commission Members at the beginning of the meeting. She noted that the Commission officer positions will be reviewed at the September meeting and election of officers will take place at the October meeting.

Labels or Booklet Holders

Commission Member Don Zeller discussed the need for a label with identifying and contact information to attach to the booklet holders that are distributed in the communities. That would facilitate replacement of booklets as the holders are emptied and note the “ownership” of the holder to avoid them being appropriated by others. Commission Member Donna Leslie will assist with the effort to design and produce the labels.

Meeting Adjourned

President Hannum adjourned the meeting at 1:04pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday September 21, 2021 in person at noon at the Log Cabin in Ft. Pierre, SD.