

# *February 13, 2007: Josh Yarrington, 845 W. Granite*

The February meeting of Butte CPR was held at Josh Yarrington's house, for the second consecutive time! In attendance: Carrie Kiely, Dick Gibson, Curt Buttons, Sharon Amundson, Stephan Foreman, Sue Lewis, Josh Yarrington, Max Detjens, Robert Edwards, Jen Titus, Scott Lewis, Irene Scheidecker, Larry Smith, Nicole Von Gaza, Bryan Woodford, Mitzi Rossillon, Toni Seccomb, Jeremiah Semer, Andrea Stierle, Erick Vines and Justine Conlan.

The minutes were approved after Dick Gibson pointed out that corrections Larry pointed out had been made to the copy on the website.

The **election of board members and officers** was held. 2007 Board: Larry Smith, Josh Yarrington, Andrea Stierle, Mitzi Rossillon, Irene Scheidecker, Carrie Kiely and Robert Edwards. 2007 Officers: President - Larry Smith; Vice-President - Andrea Stierle; Secretary - Dick Gibson; Treasurer - Mitzi Rossillon.

**Treasurer's report:** Mitzi reported a balance of \$8,696. There were no payouts, and income for this month was approximately \$645. Various sources were reported; including membership dues, sales of the stained glass booklets, and a very generous donation from Dick Gibson to support the costs to produce a guide book for the Vernacular Architecture Forum's 2009 convention. A formal proposal to host the 2009 VAF convention here in Butte will be presented at the 2007 VAF conference in Savannah, GA.

**Education pamphlet:** Nicole's working on it.

**Tours:** D2D - June 30th. Stained Glass - April 22th.

Irene said she'd have sign-up sheets for volunteers ready in March. Dick gave a quick summary of these tours for everyone. The D2D price will be the same as last year, and we will also host a tea. So far, Josh's house and the Tait will be featured.

**Workshops:** The brick workshop will be held in July. Larry's getting the pamphlet together. Larry asked about interest in a porch workshop, and Mitzi said she needed to have hers re-done. Irene reported that the committee working on a hot water workshop did not meet, but the workshop is tentatively scheduled for September.

**Ordinance and Oversight:** Larry reminded the members of the judiciary meeting tomorrow night (2/15) at 6 pm. Dick explained the voting process procedures for those who were unfamiliar with it.

**Historic Improvement Project (HIP) grants:** The board met and discussed award distribution. It was decided that the maximum per address would be \$1,000 in a 5-year period. The deadline is May 11th. Larry asked everyone to get the word out. Mitzi asked the members of the committee for their approval for her to approach the Board of Realtors about increasing their contribution - currently \$500.

**Butte Restoration Alliance:** Dick gave an organizational overview. He started out by saying the group was organized to help Butte Silver Bow (BSB) decide how to spend money on preservation projects, and this group will probably help make recommendations regarding distribution of an estimated \$15 million given to BSB by Arco. Under the plan proposed, a board of seven would make decisions, based on recommendations by the Restoration Alliance; that board's decisions would be final - but this plan has not been adopted. Some ideas for the money: forming a cultural trust. Larry asked for other ideas.

**Salvage:** Stuff still needs to be moved, but Robert said there was no immediate pressure to get our

materials out of the Grand.

**Grants Committee:** Dick talked about the two applications - The Montana Cultural Trust and the eNHLD - Virtual Historic Butte project. He gave a quick run-down of the people who helped talk up the cultural trust application, which had no defenders from CPR due to a last-minute schedule change. Still, there were preservationists in Helena to promote our application. Among them were Ellen Crain, Zack Thomas and Karen Brilliant. He thought the award possibilities looked very good. The eNHLD project would utilize database technology to link various dialog boxes to maps in the Butte-Anaconda-Walkerville NHLD. It would be possible to click on a location in the historic neighborhoods and receive text information about that property. Using Max's knowledge of computer technology, the proposed grant application will integrate this with historical research. Dick will put in an application to the National Endowment for the Humanities for approximately \$306,000. Dick and Larry asked members to form a grant committee. Jennifer Titus, Dick, and Andrea agreed to be on that committee.

**Longfellow School:** \$25,000 for the opening bid, and proposals are due in April. BSB Historic Preservation Advisor said there was an interested/credible bidder.

**Dumas:** Robert reported that patching was pretty much done, and that he's satisfied that no water is getting in. Mitzi said almost all the taxes have been paid. She suggested perhaps that CPR could come up with the rest in order to qualify for URA money. Curt generously proposed donating \$20,000 to preserve the building. Thanks Curt! Irene and Mitzi would look into the tax status further to see who's paid what.

**Vernacular Architecture Forum:** Dick gave a summary of VAF activities and tours that attendees would be expecting. Larry said the board approved \$100 to offset travel expenditures for the co-chairs of the planning committee to go to the VAF conference in Savannah.

**Fire Department:** Mitzi drafted a letter protesting the BSB fire dept's practice of using old buildings for training purposes. She ran it by BSB Historic Preservation Advisor Mark Reavis, and he suggested that she attend some Community Enrichment Committee meetings to find out their policy, and to reword the letter in the form of a query.

**National Preservation Month** is May. Dick wanted to know if CPR was going to do anything to mark the occasion. He went on to say that he and Irene are giving talks in Helena. Larry asked for ideas from the members and tabled further discussion until the March meeting.

**Newspaper Column:** Nicole renewed her call for articles.

Justine asked if the website could feature a section with contractors who do good work as a way for owners of historic homes to find good trades people. Dick and Max agreed to get something set up.

Carrie mentioned working with Monica Cavanaugh to present a proposal to an Irish book publisher to relocate in Butte.

**O'Rourke:** some discussion on a possible credible buyer.

**Council of Commissioners:** no report.

**Historical Commission:** Larry said new members are needed. Some strategizing followed about how to get some CPR members on the commission.

**Next meeting:** March 13, SilverBow Properties, 78 E. Park.