

March 13, 2007 • Silver Bow Properties, 78 E. Park

The March meeting was called to order by President Larry Smith at approximately 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Nicole Von Gaza, Mykl Meagher, Liz Silliman, Josh Yarrington, Larry Smith, Scott Lewis, Sue Lewis, Mitzi Rossillon, Robert Edwards, Kelly Rose, Max Detjens, Darcel Yarrington, Kenneth Oschmann, Troy Jenrich, Toni Seccomb, Steve Foreman, and Dick Gibson. New additions to the membership mailing list are posted in the "Members Only" pages.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance, \$8836, including donation from Ed Stuka of \$100.

Education: The Pamphlet of Appropriate Historic Design and Materials for Renovation, for realtors and others, is being worked on by Nicole; results expected in May.

Kelly asked for liaisons for the **Dust to Dazzle Tour**. 40-50 volunteers (hosts, guides, ticket sellers) will be needed to work 2-hour shifts at each of the 6 properties on this year's tour, scheduled for June 30.

Stained Glass Tour - no report, tour planned for April 22.

Hot Water Heat Workshop (Robert, Larry, Irene, Bob Walker) - working on reformatting a lengthy document prepared by Montana Tech PTC students and converting it into a pamphlet.

Windows Workshop - suggestion was made to explore re-running this program, either with National Park Service people as previously, or on our own. Irene will check with the NPS about possibilities.

Ordinance & Oversight: Sue and Scott mentioned that most Realtors are running scared, especially regarding Uptown properties, because of a continuing (unfounded) perception about the \$1,000 fine in the new Historic Preservation Ordinance. It was decided to use a version of the previous Q and A on the ordinance (drafted by Dick, but never used) to send to members of the Butte Board of Realtors, many of whom "get their information from the Butte Weekly." Then, Nicole was nominated/volunteered to make a presentation at a monthly meeting of the Butte Board of Realtors to continue to help set the record straight.

HIP Grants: Andrea is drafting a press release. Kelly will get hard copies to the BSB Community Development Office. Application deadline is May 11.

Butte Restoration Alliance: Larry asked for ideas for projects. Once suggestion related to the interrelation between public and private spaces, such as landscaping/planters at the NW corner of Park and Montana. The Historic Preservation subcommittee of the Alliance meets at Dick Gibson's home (301 N. Crystal), 7:00 pm March 20.

Salvage: We need to move our stuff, but although transfer of the host building (Grand Hotel) is imminent, Robert indicated that there is no serious urgency regarding our move. Mitzi will contact Chris the Carpenter regarding more salvage. Some discussion of placing an ad, both to solicit donations from renovators and to offer our material for sale. Mitzi volunteered Jim Warner as the telephone contact for this information.

Grants: Dick reported that the C&A Grant was awarded, but this was incorrect; it just passed from the Joint Appropriations Committee and will not be final until the end of the Legislative Session. Dick reported that the eNHLD Virtual Historic Butte grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities will be submitted by March 22.

OLD BUSINESS

Longfellow School: Developer's packet submission deadline is April 4. There is reportedly at least one credible developer interested.

Dumas: Our cost for materials used in the volunteer efforts on the roof was \$142.99. Larry reports numerous inquiries via e-mail about the place.

Vernacular Architecture Forum: Dick reported that the final presentation for Butte, at the Savannah meeting, is well advanced and in preparation by Maire O'Neill, co-chair of the planning committee. Dick will be attending the Savannah meeting March 27-April 1.

Butte Fire Department (re: destroying buildings for practice): Mitzi plans to meet/talk with Jeff Miller, Fire Chief. Everyone acknowledged that what is needed is a dedicated practice and training facility.

IRS 501(c)3 application: Our application was returned because (1) the forms required had changed and (2) the filing fee had gone from \$150 to \$300. Larry will work on the revised application; Dick volunteered to assist at expediting this.

Web: Dick gave a brief update indicating that our visitation has gone from about 45 unique visitors per day in April 2006 to 79 for the first 11 days of March 2007.

URA: Mitzi reported on the planned promotional demonstration at the Court House Wednesday March 14 at 3:00 pm by a private company, DecoRock, a fake brick manufacturer.

OTHER REPORTS

Historic Preservation Commission: Dick reported that the HPC has agreed to be a collaborator on our NEH grant. In other action, the HPC approved a draft scope of work for the Historic Preservation Officer, and discussed the Regional Historic Preservation Plan and a draft letter to St. James Healthcare regarding their agreed remediation/restoration plan for their entry corridor.

Mitzi reported that the **Community Enrichment** department is trying to improve its inventory lists, to identify properties that are/are not suitable for redevelopment. There is also a new weed ordinance in the works.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Liz Silliman from Philipsburg discussed her business restoring architectural elements through decorative painting. She has done a lot of this sort of thing in Philipsburg and is interested in working with merchants and others in Butte.

Irene briefly discussed the fact that the Leonard is for sale.

Mitzi brought up the previous discussions we have had about what to do during National Historic Preservation Month, May. She suggested an open house, tours, of the Metals Bank Building to see the great new work being done by Ron Ueland.

Dick mentioned that the "NHLD Expansion Celebration," spearheaded by Ellen Crain, will be sometime in May as well. CPR can piggy-back with that if they want.

Nicole led discussion about the planned CPR-sponsored newspaper articles. Only one (Nicole) of the 5 folks who were trying to write articles got anything complete. Nicole will pursue this.

Larry will be absent at the next meeting, which will be **April 10 at the Leonard Hotel.**

ACTION ITEMS

- Andrea - HIP Press Release
- Kelly - HIP Flier to BSB etc.
- Mitzi - talk with Jeff Miller; talk with Chris the Carpenter
- Mitzi-Larry(?) - work on ad for salvage
- Larry - Work on revised IRS filing; deal with reformatting PTC students' Hot Water Heat document
- Irene - check with NPS on windows workshop
- Dick - circulate for review bullet list of Hist. Pres. Ordinance facts (Q and A) for Realtors; help Larry with IRS filing; submit NEH grant app.
- Nicole - Appropriate Design pamphlet; newspaper articles (writing, yelling at others to write)