

April 10, 2007 • Leonard Hotel, 215 W. Granite

The April meeting was called to order by Vice-President Andrea Stierle at approximately 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Andrea Stierle, Sue & Scott Lewis, Nicole von Gaza, Toni Seccomb, Mitzi Rossillon, Robert Edwards, Mykl Meagher, Toby Day, Stephen Foreman, Curt Buttons, Bryan Woodford, Jim Griffin, John Babcock, Jen Titus, Janice Hogan, Beth Yost, Irene & Don Scheidecker, Greg McDonald, and Dick Gibson. New additions to the membership mailing list are posted in the "Members Only" pages.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as read by Irene.

HELP NEEDED

- Dust to Dazzle volunteers: Kelly Rose
- Newspaper articles - Ideas & words: Nicole von Gaza
- Grants - June 1 deadline: Jen Titus
- Copper Ball June 16: Julie Tintinger

ACTION ITEMS - April-May 2007

- Andrea - Call Mark & Dori regarding salvage and CPR notification
- Irene - send notes to churches reminding about Stained Glass tour
- Mitzi - send Jim Warner's write-up on contractors to Sabrina and Robert
- Irene - coordinate CPR Board meeting with Curt Buttons, re Dumas
- Dick - send Stained Glass Press release; send Junior Historian questions for review; revamp "For Sale" web page; put together talk on VAF/Savannah
- Irene - check with NPS on windows workshop
- Larry - work with Kelly to call for volunteers for D2D
- Dick & Irene - finalize Stained Glass PowerPoint show
- Nicole - Appropriate Design pamphlet; newspaper articles (writing, yelling at others to write); work on Board of Realtors talk (with Dick)
- Mitzi - talk to Ron Ueland about Metals Bank Tour

Treasurer's Report:

Current balance,
\$8673.37.

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. This is being done in connection with a presentation planned for the Board of Realtors regarding the new Historic Preservation Ordinance - Dick said he would help Nicole with that if needed.

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. Larry will be asked to coordinate with Kelly on e-mail requests for more volunteers.

Stained Glass Tour - tour planned for April 22. Guided walks this year instead of open house format - beginning at the Leonard. Nicole (through her company, Uptown Butte Glass Works) and Andrea are donating \$50 each to support the cost of the trolley to give people rides back up the hill at the ends of tours. Janice Hogan volunteered to serve as the "host" at the Leonard to sell booklets etc., and Mitzi will serve as a backup and extra guide supporting the four we have now. Thanks! Dick will send the press release on the tour.

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 - no report - suggestion was made last month 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: Dick attended the Historic Preservation Commission meeting April 3, and reported that the first draft of the Preservation Guidelines is in the hands of HPC members for their review, requested by May 1; at that time a second draft of the guidelines will be made widely available to the public for comment.

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

Butte Restoration Alliance: Dick reported that the previous suggestion that the BRA will serve as the advisory group to the appointive 7-person panel that will allocate the ARCO Redevelopment Trust money is probably not exactly true; the Panel and/or the Council of Commissioners will have to designate the panel's advisory board. The most recent activity by the BRA related to Stodden Pool; the BRA recommended against spending the money that would be needed to reopen the pool this summer.

Salvage: Considerable discussion. Mykl encouraged us to anticipate salvage opportunities, to do what it takes to see that we are more adequately notified of pending demolitions, and to investigate why or if we need to be concerned about bonding, insurance, contractors' licenses, etc., as we try to undertake salvage. Mitzi said that we can and should work with Mark Reavis, the HPC (which under the new ordinance now has demolition review for historic properties throughout the county), the Community Development Office, and with demolition contractors. Andrea volunteered to talk with Mark Reavis (Historic Preservation Office) and Dori Skrukrud (Community Development) about re-establishing a relationship between those offices and CPR regarding salvage opportunities. If individuals see or hear of potential salvage opportunities, they should contact Larry Smith, CPR Salvage Coordinator.

Grants: Dick reported that the eNHL Virtual Historic Butte grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities was submitted March 22 after much gnashing of teeth. A decision is expected in September 2007. Jen Titus, Grants Committee, had to leave early but left a written report on ideas for the History Channel's "Save our History" grant (up to \$10,000), which requires partnering with schools or youth groups. Deadline is June 1.

OLD BUSINESS

Longfellow School: Eight bidders; high bid was \$125,100 from a firm in Nevada that plans to rehabilitate the building. They have until May 4 to come up with the money; if they do not, the property will be re-bid. After discussion, it was decided (with one dissenting vote) to table any action by CPR on the Longfellow pending further school board actions and finalizing the purchase.

Dumas: At Irene's suggestion, a CPR Board meeting will be called to discuss the Dumas. Dick reported a phone call out of the blue from a party in Salt Lake City interested in buying the Dumas; he was referred to the owner; the Salt Lake caller called back a few hours later to say that the owner indicated a likely buyer was visiting the Dumas "in the next day or two."

Vernacular Architecture Forum: Dick reported that the final presentation for Butte, at the Savannah meeting, given by him and Rolene Schliesman (Montana SHPO) resulted in the VAF Board approving Butte for 2009. VAF Board and members are very excited about coming to Montana and Butte. This was announced in regional press releases.

Butte Fire Department No report.

IRS 501(c)3 application: [Added by Secretary post-meeting] Our application was re-submitted with the new fee.

Junior Historian Program Dick has proposed this "scavenger hunt" idea as a way of educating and entertaining visitors to historic uptown Butte. His initial set of questions was too hard, so he is asking for review. The CPR Board, plus Jim Griffin and Toni Seccomb, will review them.

Newspaper Articles Nicole reiterated the call for ideas and submissions of 350-word articles for the Montana Standard. She wants to have a "stockpile" of 5 to 8 articles before approaching the Standard formally (informal discussions indicate that they are very interested in the idea of CPR-sponsored articles on diverse articles related to history, preservation, architecture, how-to, and more). A shopping list of ideas for articles will be posted to the "members only" section of the web site. The Standard prefers to do their own photography, so we just need articles.

NEW BUSINESS

Julie Tintinger reported that the **National Historic Landmark District expansion celebration** will include official events (organized by Ellen Crain) at the Alice Mine in Walkerville, a site to be named in Butte, and at Washoe Park in Anaconda, on Friday June 15, with officials from the National Park Service and others in attendance. Julie T. and Julie Crowley are organizing a grand **Copper Ball**, encouraging attendees to come in period costumes and to enjoy turn-of-the-century dances and music. This event will be at the Silver Bow Club on Saturday June 16. Julie & Julie want your help! Contact Julie T. at 563-3186. Nicole volunteered to contact the Dillon Junior Fiddlers as one possible musical act.

Dick reported that two proposed sessions have been submitted to the **Montana History Conference** (Helena, October 18-20). One is promotional for the Vernacular Architecture Forum, and the other is on "Using Butte history as a vehicle for cultural tourism." Both proposed sessions would have CPR members presenting.

Mitzi brought up **National Historic Preservation Month (May)** and discussed CPR plans for activities. She will contact Ron Ueland regarding a possible "open house" at the Metals Bank Building. Dick and Irene will see about giving their Stained Glass talk in Butte sometime (it is on for Helena May 17), and Dick plans to give a talk on what he learned at the VAF meeting in Savannah - a historical preservation success story. Other ideas would be welcome!

Dick mentioned that he wrote a letter to Karen Byrnes, URA, about the proposed **uptown parking garage**; the reply indicated that historic context will be addressed, and Cindi Shaw (commissioner) has seen the plans and says at least one is historically appropriate.

Dick also mentioned the **\$100,000** that is up for approval as a 1-time grant to BSB by the State, and that if it all does not go to the National Folk Festival that we should be primed to apply for some of it (probably after July 1).

Policy for listings on Web Site - Contractors and "For Sale"

Extensive discussion about contractor listings indicated an interest in being able to provide newcomers with some kind of ranking system for contractors, but there does not seem to be a good way to do it - we need either to list them all impartially (or offer to list them and let them provide "advertisements" - for a fee) or do so more privately (e.g., in the members only space), or through a facility like a blog with disclaimers that CPR does not recommend. Robert encouraged us to at least provide some guidelines for selecting good contractors; Jim Griffin and other pointed out that such information exists on many web sites and we could just link to it, perhaps with the most important "bullet points" as well as any Butte-specific suggestions as to how to select contractors. Mitzi said that Jim Warner has a draft for expansion and review, which Mitzi will send to Sabrina and Robert for reworking. Advertising rates

on our web site for contractors were discussed, ranging from \$100 to \$500 per year. Nothing final was determined.

After discussion of a similar idea regarding our "For Sale" page, a motion was made, seconded, and passed with no objections (including votes by the four Board members present) that we would have a policy on listings of "For Sale" properties. The policy is that paid CPR members can list historic properties on our For Sale page, and that the CPR Board may also designate for listing particular properties that we wish to encourage interest in with a view to sale. Dick is to revise the web site in accord with this policy.

There was some discussion about listings of other things for sale on behalf of others, such as salvage; the sense of the discussion was that CPR would only list members' properties for sale at this time, not items for other businesses.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Toby Day, the new county Extension Agent, discussed his ideas for street beautification, trees, master gardens plans, and desire to incorporate and enhance historic elements. Everyone loved this.

Irene said that it is likely that the Leonard will be sold to buyers from Salt Lake City and that she is confident they will be responsible stewards.

The next meeting will be **May 8 at the Leonard Hotel.**