

## *Sept 13, 2011 - Mitzi Rossillon's house*

The September meeting began at 7:00 pm; and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. In attendance were Rick Poese, Mike Hogan, Larry Smith, Dick Gibson, Carrie Kiely, Mitzi Rossillon, Robert Renouard, Olivia Everett, Zoe Axhelm, and Bill MacGregor.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the August meeting were not read; action items were reviewed - most had not been accomplished.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rick reported \$115 income (NorthWestern Energy D2D sponsorship still unpaid). Expenses: PR Coord (2 mo) \$375. Balance ~\$38,000.

### **Education:**

- Ghost Sign Preservation and Restoration - Robert R to pursue and follow up with Julie C re tour etc.
- Film series - Committee (Carrie, Michael Masters, Pat Munday) met; planning to have one weekend in February at Montana Tech.

**HIP Grants:** see below. Also, Zoe suggested a presentation of before and after pictures at an event, like the artwalk, and a possible tour that would be a walkabout focusing on HIP recipients.

**Salvage:** Various folks have offered salvage materials. Do we want windows? Mike says they sell well. Robert R offered some space in Tait Hotel for stuff. Once we have new stuff, web page needs to be updated with current photos.

**Grants:** no report; but BSB Community Foundation grant application was submitted.

### **ACTION ITEMS - Sept-Oct 2011**

- **Larry:** Contact lady on S Montana Street re: roof
- **Robert R:** Work on inventory of places that might benefit from parapet work
- **Bill M:** try to organize a work day at Mary MacLane House
- **Mike H:** talk to Bernie about K of C hall
- **HIP Committee** - finalize awards; tell Dick; Dick send out press release.
- **Dick** - ask HIP committee for more input re HIP application schedule
- **Dick** - change HIP grant stuff on web to reflect 18 months for grant period
- **Dick** - pursue request to County Attorney for copy of opinion re Greek Cafe
- **Carrie et al.:** plan a seminar or the like on Ghost Sign Preservation and Restoration for Spring 2011 (carryover)
- **Carrie** - report to HIP committee re Trex. (carryover)
- **Dick** - call lady on S Montana street
- **Julie Crowley/Robert R** - plan and conduct a ghost signs tour
- **Julie Crowley** - continue planning for Anaconda Road memorial and other uses for pavers
- **Mitzi** - contact Exchange Club, Paint the Town re ways we could help
- **Mitzi & Robert R** - list parameters etc. re Habitat for Humanity design at 623 W. Granite
- **Robert R** - draft letter regarding new construction/infill for Ordinance Review Committee
- **Carrie** - Draft letter complimenting BSB regarding Brinks Building roof plan
- **Carrie** - ongoing re Film Series
- **Dick** - include ref to minutes in general monthly mailing
- **Dick** - work on CPR brochure
- **Dick** - rejuvenate newspaper articles
- **Dick** - pursue presentations to civic groups (ongoing)
- **VOLUNTEERS** - hours to Dick

**PR Coordinator report:** no report

## OLD BUSINESS

**HIP Award timing:** Discussion of possibly having more than one application season. Andrea (HIP committee) had emailed the following: *I also like the current annual approach to the HIP grant. From a logistics standpoint it's hard enough finding time to review one set of grants and deciding what to fund. The single application also gives us the opportunity to "cherry pick." If grant apps dribble in throughout the year we might fund some mediocre projects early because they are the only applications on hand, and we might run out of money and not be able to fund a really cool grant. Conversely, we might reject a project early in the year because we hope for better apps, only to find nothing better later in the year. Most of the big funding agencies have specific grant dates for some of these same reasons. It's nice to have all the applications in hand to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses against each other.*

*It would also add another layer of oversight. We would have to keep track of who received which grant when and when their 12 months was up. Now, we have a general sense that everyone was notified on a certain date (give or take) and that all recipients should be submitting receipts - or asking for an extension.*

*I would entertain the idea that we extend the grant period. Warm dry weather is hanging in longer and longer-September and October are now great outdoor project months. If people put off their projects until the second year and June/ July are really wet, they might not complete the project on time. I wouldn't mind changing the timing from 12 months to 16 months.*

The board decided to expand the period for performance of grants from 12 months to 18 months. Whether or not to change from a single application period to two or more was tabled, pending more input from HIP committee, which Dick is supposed to seek from them.

**Greek Cafe:** Dick requested a copy of the County Attorney's opinion regarding Council action; not received to date; he will follow up. There is a rally, Tune In to Butte, with music and preservation education, from noon to 7:00 pm, at the park on the southeast corner of Park and Wyoming (across from the Greek Cafe), on Saturday Sept. 24. Please attend.

**623 W. Granite:** Mitzi and Robert R have discussed, and have informal criteria and recommendations, which will be formalized soon. Includes such things as appropriate setbacks, yard, roof pitch, window size, scaling of features. Plan is to contribute to the environmental assessments that are expected soon for 17 potential properties to be selected for NAHN's Neighborhood Stabilization projects (HUD grant).

**Other:** none.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Discussion of possible uses for CPR monies beyond HIP program.** This extensive discussion was brainstorming for ideas, both general and specific, for ways CPR could focus larger amounts of money on selected projects. Kinds of work discussed included parapet repair (Robert R; he will work toward a list of possible beneficiaries); North Main St. false-front; S. Montana Street roof (call to Dick; Larry will check out - Dick to call her back and provide phone numbers to Larry); Babcock's Furs/Main St. Alley behind Club 13 (Dick via previous discussion with Robert E); Knights of Columbus Hall (much discussion; Olivia suggested involving Butte Central students; Mike H is to talk to Bernie about possibilities); Mary MacLane House (lengthy discussion of state of roof and other parts; Bill is to try to coordinate a work day in the next month or so, pre-Winter, to get needed buttoning up done).

Suggestions for the kinds of monies we could designate ranged from \$5K-\$7k, to more than that. Suggestion that it would be useful and appropriate to establish clear criteria for whatever may be chosen resulted in some brainstorming, and an initial list of criteria as follows:

- Visibility and location
- affordable - will CPR's contribution make a difference
- Presence of an active, motivated, aggressive partner in building owner/manager
- Historic connections, including "modern" roles in the community
- Owner is non-profit
- presence of a champion within Butte CPR, to lead/coordinate
- leverageability for other sources of funds
- Architectural and historic integrity, and the story the place tells
- Significance
- Sustainability

No action was taken on this idea.

## OTHER REPORTS

These reports from Dick are sent to the Board at the time the meetings are attended. Notes from those meetings are added here in the monthly minutes.

### **HPC Meeting report, Sept 6, 2011:** 7 members present

Also present for some or all of the meeting: Jon Sesso, Lori Casey (serving as staff in Jim Jarvis' absence), Steve Hess, Dave Palmer, Dori Skrukrud, Rick Foote, Mike Sheehy, Julie Tramner, Ed Cleavinger (+2), and another member of the public whose name I did not get.

1. Ed Cleavinger, Uptown Sweets & Gifts. Moving from 47 W Park to 49 W Park (former Munchkins). Wants to put an awning on. HPC concurs with HPC recommendation to approve with conditions (cloth, poss. pin stripe, etc.). S. Hinick voted no.
2. Demolition permit, 206 W. Granite, garage behind Empire Office Machines in alley; to build new storage facility. HPC finds not listed, determined not significant, rec. approval. HPC concurs not historic (Robert Edwards abstains).
3. New construction COA for garage/storage behind 206 W. Granite. HPO rec. approval with parapet on north wall for (minimal) Granite St. view. HPC further suggests roof material consideration for reflectivity re: adjacent residences. COA approved.
4. New Business. Centerville Affordable Housing. This is regarding 7 lots near corner of Center and Main, with funding under Rural Development Self-Help Program. 8 designs were approved for these lots only (clear that this ruling, from SHPO and from HPC, does not apply to future 17 lots which will be under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (Commerce/HUD) in other parts of Butte). Pete Brown/SHPO ruled on designs, NAHN accepted. Regarding the upcoming Neighborhood Stabilization Program, Dori outlined the plans: imminent "global environmental assessment" of Census tracts 1, 2, and 4, which will provide the framework for identifying the 17 locations for the buildings. Each site will be separately assessed for compatibility for the locations chosen, sec. 106-110 compliance, etc. And each will come to HPC for design review (as well as SHPO).
5. Old business. Original Hoist House west deck designs - by Steve Hinick. This is focused on making the Hoist House ADA accessible. Discussion focused on his initial plan which included burying much of the surviving industrial infrastructure (pipes, etc) on the west side. Following discussion, Steve takes

under advisement and will work on modified plan.

6. HPC adjourned to Steward Mine Yard, where Tom Malloy took them around (all present except Steve H and Chris H). Point was to provide familiarity with the site, especially the inside, given the concept that the Festivals (BET) would like to convert the building into offices/staging areas etc.

**Council of Commissioners Meeting report for Sept. 7, 2011:** 11 present, Shaw absent, Babb presiding.

The first issue of interest was from the Committee of the Whole report, Communication 11-488, regarding details and amendments to the budget. Many, many, many items were discussed, mostly I think proposals from Commissioners for additions. Commissioner Anderson proposed a fund for \$150,000 to be set aside from tax levies to serve as an emergency historic preservation fund for stabilizing, mothballing, etc., using the Brinks as a current example. Reaction was that no way would we spend money to preserve private properties - even though it was obvious to me that that was not the intent. The proposal died for lack of a second.

From the Committee of the Whole report, Communication 11-486 (Karen Byrnes' notice re URA denial of \$14,000 to support the Kujawa plan for Greek Cafe) was segregated, and when it came up it was placed on file. (This was procedurally necessary before they could act on the current communication, below.)

*Communications to be read and acted on:*

11-519, from Ed Randall to discuss the Brinks. Repeated the previous information about the common wall with the Deluxe Bar and impossibility of demolishing. Propose instead to re-roof (\$30-\$35K) or patch/tar (\$5-\$7K). Council approved mothballing, apparently leaving it to Community Enrichment to determine the nature of the work. There were two votes opposing mothballing; it was a voice vote and I don't know for sure but think it was Granger and Henderson.

11-527, from Karen Byrnes requesting authorization for Chief Executive to sign contract with Hoffman R&M Services to demolish Greek Cafe at cost of \$93,483. Commissioner Hall made a brief plea to save it. Commissioner Shultz agreed; he indicated that they have an email from Nick Kujawa which was not read, but it seemed that the gist was he was still interested, has solid plans that were indicated in the email, and was in the midst of lining up financing. Commissioner Anderson made an impassioned plea, referring to the hour+ of discussion of \$500, \$1500, \$3000 in the budget that they had just discussed, and pointing out that this would be a waste of \$93,000+. Pointed out that "90% of the demolition work is to stabilize it." Anderson moved to contract with Sirius Construction and stabilize the building; Hall seconded. Commissioner Foley referred to the County Attorney opinion which was not read, but I inferred that it says the Council is within the law in demolishing the building without consulting the HPC. Shultz said he feels the County Attorney's opinion regarding imminent danger is wrong. Various other contentious back-and-forth. On the substitute proposal, Anderson's motion to stabilize, it failed 7-4, I think - it might have been 8-3 (I did not get all of those voting against but it appeared to be Ralph, Frasz, Henderson, Walker, Morgan, Foley, Granger). The original communication, to sign the contract for demolition, was then voted on and passed 7-4, with Anderson, Palmer, Hall, and Shultz voting against demolition.

**Next meeting:** Oct 11, at Larry Smith's house, 27 N Excelsior.