

Murray History Advisory Board
Minutes for June 24, 2014

Attendance: Ian Wright, Brittany Bremer, Sarah Roach, Wendy DeMann, Reed Wahlquist,
Mary Ann Kirk (staff), Mayor Eyre
Excused: Peter Steele, Susan Wright

1. Minutes for May 27, 2014 were approved as written.
2. Board members need to sign a time sheet for our CLG grant. Mary Ann will send out the form so board members can sign it.
3. Wendy and Brittany are working on the cemetery tour. A woman attending the power building tour suggested we focus on smelter related deaths. Wendy said she found a story about a man who was the first person to document the increase of arsenic from the stacks. He could be the hero. Ian asked if this was going to be a mystery game. Wendy suggested the script could include a variety of stories about illnesses and the public would try to solve what was killing the people. We would keep the people in organized groups to address the concern that this project is respectful of the cemetery and have designated parking outside of the cemetery. Brittany suggested the old wagon master parking across the street. Brittany thought we could have snacks for those who are waiting to start. Mary Ann thought we could have patrons preregister. Brittany and Wendy will come back with some more detail for the July meeting.
4. One last draft of the National Registry nomination was emailed to all board members for final approval. Board members approved the nomination unanimously. Mary Ann said a notice was mailed to all homeowners regarding the nomination meeting on July 17 that included how to make comments.
5. Listening stations are almost done. We added one more station because there were so many stories for business and family life.
6. We had 31 people attend the public cemetery tours and about the same amount for the downtown tours.
7. The Heritage Foundation has been contacted that we want to do the mobile app for our historic downtown. Kirk Huffacker has put us on the list. Mary Ann has contacted the man who wrote our Murray Spotter's Guide to see if he would help us with gathering all the things we need to supply. We want to do some audio recordings of people who have specific memories of the buildings we are focusing on.
8. Mary Ann has an intern working for her. She will help us design the "Lost and Found" exhibit and will contact Wendy about the artifacts from her home. The intern, Tayrn, has also started doing Instagram. She is developing a weekly contest to encourage people to find various historic locations in the city. Mary Ann asked for ideas for the name. Brittany said another group does Finders Keepers.
9. Board members who were assigned to help get permission for buildings we are trying to put on the national registry are still working on it. Mary Ann suggested they get the owner to call her if they have questions. We have a deadline of Aug 31 so we need to move on this quickly.

Sara - Labrum Log House (6420 South 900 East) – in the yard behind the home at this address

Brittany - Miller Home (now clubhouse 4929 Lake Pines Dr)

Ian - Mackay home (1200 West Bullion) – this is Hickman's property

Reed - 5786 S Erektion Lane

Wendy – 121 West 5900 South

10. Mary Ann is working with the potential owners of the Ore Sampling Mill. They are exploring the tax credits. Mary Ann offered to finish a nomination for the site. We already have an ILS completed. They may incorporate a museum into their development. Mary Ann also contacted the realtor for the Flour Mill and suggested he contact the Heritage Foundation to discuss other ways to market the historic building.
11. State history has offered an extra \$10,000 CLG grant. Mary Ann asked if there are any specific buildings or projects we could use this money for. Board members thought it could be used for a building to house the museum.
12. Mayor Eyre asked how we felt about preserving just the front of the Townsend and Harker Buildings on the west side of State Street for a parking structure to serve this area and a potential new performing arts center on the corner where the Hoffman building burned. Mary Ann said these are protected historic buildings in the MCCD. Ian asked what the MCCD shows as for the use of these buildings. Mary Ann said they envisioned these buildings for adaptive reuse for office, retail, and housing. Board members felt adaptive reuse was more appropriate and the defining character of the buildings should be retained. They felt other locations should be explored. Ian said parking is essential but felt we would regret it down the road. He would rather lose homes than the main street businesses. Brittany said the Mayor campaigned on preserving the historic downtown. Wendy suggested the city donate the buildings for the performing arts center and building a parking lot on the corner. Mary Ann noted that historic preservation was a component of the county regional cultural facilities plan.
13. Board members and the Mayor toured the armory as a potential site for the museum. The parks department currently uses the building for storing their equipment. Mary Ann said the power building poses a problem because we would have to cover the beautiful windows. But the board believes it is critical for the city to preserve the power building. Ian said it would make a beautiful community room and used for things like receptions. The armory doesn't have as much charm but it has little natural light which is good for museum artifacts and is a better location for walk-in traffic. The board expressed interest in moving the Freeze barn to this location for an activity space for school tours. This would allow us to tell the story of the park. There are also some advantages to having the museum in city hall wherever that is located. Ian suggested the board make a list of pros and cons for each location for the mayor to review.