

Murray History Advisory Board
Minutes for October 25, 2011

Attendance: David Adams, Wendy DeMann, Peter Steele, Ian Wright, Jay Bollwinkle, Mary Ann Kirk (staff), Ted McBride (potential board member).

Excused: Susan Wright

1. Minutes for September 27, 2011 were approved as written.
2. Peter has skimmed the first few chapters of the history book titled *Between the Cottonwoods*. It does lightly cover the transitions between industrial, commercial, and bedroom communities. It provides a short overview but Peter felt it could have more detail. Mary Ann said that the city may want to do a new one in the next 5-10 years. There is a publishing company that has been going around doing histories for cities and counties throughout Utah. The former history done in 1992 is a little dry and could use more color. Ian said he has seen several from a publisher and could bring one in.
3. Wendy's heritage group was willing to come on July 4th. She passed out some examples of demonstrations that could be used. Mary Ann will share this with the Fun Days Committee and thought this would make a nice addition. It will be well attended.
4. Jay reported on the strategic plan committee meeting. The group was very positive about the city. Some people were surprised to learn we had a museum. The group acknowledged the newly annexed area is still not connected well to Murray. Mary Ann invites schools from this area to the arts and history activities and offers to pay for buses, but they don't often take advantage of these offers - especially the history related ones for the museum and cemetery. It would really help if the schools were brought into the school district. Maybe we need to do some actual classroom presentations on Murray history to give them a taste of the curriculum. Mary Ann said that some people question why we are taking school children to cemeteries. She tries to educate the students and adults on how interesting cemeteries can be.
5. Mary Ann attended the UMA conference in Logan. She will also attend a state disaster recover conference on November 2. She is excited that the state is pulling together many agencies to discuss preserving historic assets in the event of a disaster.
6. The Cottonwood Street mitigation project has hired Korral Broschinsky to do an ILS survey on the four buildings that are designated for demolition and a general history of the neighborhood. We would like to do some oral histories of people who lived there - especially before we lose another generation of people who are older. An RFP has also been distributed for a final RLS survey that will complete a full inventory of the building stock in Murray and an update of the national registry multiple property listing.
7. A new board chair and vice chair was elected. Peter Steele was nominated as chair and Ian Wright was nominated as vice chair. Voting was unanimous in favor of these

nominations.

8. Mary Ann reviewed the history board ordinance including its mission and areas of responsibilities. Mary Ann noted that she works occasionally with state and federal agencies when historic resources are involved. Sometimes the board itself will be involved with mitigation situations such as the Cottonwood Street Study and the former smelter site. She reviewed the registry process. Owners of eligible buildings may choose not to be on the register if nominated. Mary Ann explained our current registry and the filing system she uses. We started with buildings built before 1920 and we are currently adding homes in the 1930s and 40s. After 1950, we will have to approach the process differently because much of Murray was built during that time frame. We may choose a few districts but may just choose a few homes as good examples of various architectural styles after 1950. It will provide a history of our community through the buildings themselves. The museum staff is in the process of putting the registry on the library website. Owners of buildings on the register may order plaques as a recognition. Currently they must pay for it. Only a handful of them have plaques on their buildings.

The ordinance seems to still have confusion regarding the difference between the inventory and the registry. The registry is not regulatory but requires the owners to contact the city regarding exterior changes or demolitions. Demolition requires a board review to determine documentation needs. This also allows us to provide resources to preserve the historic integrity if the owner chooses to do so. However, the ordinance wording seems to indicate that everyone on the inventory must do that. She thought it only applied to demolitions - not exterior changes. Board members didn't think people on the inventory should have to contact the city for changes on the building. We may need to discuss this further. Mary Ann explained that the board had previously wanted to have landmarks protected. They are protected in the new downtown district through a design review process separate from the history board. But no other historic building has any protection outside of that area. We will talk more about landmarks next month and how to encourage their preservation. Wendy wondered if we could produce a publication that includes success stories and shows others the value of restoring and preserving our historic buildings. Mary Ann felt we have so few that it is important to preserve what we have left.

9. Next month's meeting will be the last Tuesday on November 29 which is the 5th Tuesday.