

Murray City History Advisory Board
Minutes for February 26, 2013

Attendance: Peter Steele, Ian Wright, Brittany Bremer, David Adams, Mary Ann Kirk (staff)
Excused: Susan Wright, Wendy DeMann

1. Minutes for November 27, 2012 were approved as written. January's meeting was cancelled since we did not have a quorum.
2. Peter Steele discussed a project he completed for a school assignment related to the LaSalle Acres subdivision located just south of 5900 South and east of 700 West. This early ranch style subdivision was built in phases in the 1950s by the developer LaSalle and the Utah and Realty Construction Company. It was approximately the third ranch style subdivision built in Murray. The subdivision features two basic styles in a rectangular shape of 45 feet long and 35 feet wide with three bedrooms, hip roof or side gables, striated brick, structural masonry rather than veneer, and plaster and lathe interior. The subdivision contains about 40-45 homes. The neighborhood is still very cohesive. He spoke with a homeowner who has lived in a home since it was built. This type of subdivision was typically built for people moving out of the city into suburban areas. However after talking with the owner, it appears that many of these homes were purchased by young families who wanted to live where they grew up and stay close to their families who still lived in Murray. Peter will get us a copy of his report.
3. Staff Report by Mary Ann Kirk
 - a. Annie Cahoon Winchester autograph journal is being professionally scanned by the LDS Church. They will keep a copy and return the artifact with a disk.
 - b. The Parks Department assisted us in removing a bathroom sink, fixing plumbing and replacing the sink in the middle work room, and building some shelves for storage.
 - c. Demolitions for 2012 totaled seven out of period, eighteen within the historic period (50 years or older) but not on our register, and two buildings on our registry and one outbuilding of a home on our register. These buildings included 152-156 Court Avenue, 760 East Vine, and an outbuilding at 4790 Cherry. She noted that a number of homes along Hillside Drive will be demolished over the next few months for the new junior high.
 - d. Wilson Martin from State History met with the Mayor, introducing the Prospering Places program for economic development. He was willing to meet with a group of businesses to discuss this program and help them organize as an organization that can assess community resources to market the area that typically includes a historic element. It was similar to the Main Street program. Mary Ann suggested that Tim Tingey be involved but to her knowledge, nothing has happened since this meeting. This could be discussed again next year as city leadership changes.
 - e. Litigation related to the Oasis development on Center Street is completed with the ruling supporting the city's position. The neighbors are working with Jim Brass and asking the city to reconsider the zoning related to the west side of Center

Street. They already made a public comment to the City Council in early February. They have asked the history board to help them on encouraging changes. They would like the city to allow the Oasis development to flip the orientation around so it does not come so close to the street front and then address the broader zoning issues for the homes along the entire street. The history board already submitted a letter last fall to the city at a planning and zoning meeting, asking them to consider the option to flip the orientation of the Oasis development. Mary Ann told the board it was up to them if they wanted to discuss this situation further as a formal item on the agenda with the potential of making additional comments or recommendations to the City. Ian asked what the age was of the home owners in this area. He wondered if they were older people who would be leaving anyway. Peter said the large majority who attended the hearing in the fall were young families. David said the public meeting included many concerns about traffic. Ian was surprised that it allowed 50 feet height right across the street. Board members felt that some of the issues on Center Street were not thought through very well and further discussion would be appropriate. Peter thought it felt like they chose Center Street as a convenient boundary but didn't really think about all the houses on the west side of Center Street. Mary Ann will place it on the agenda for next month.

4. Homes at 5011 S Glenn Street and 4904 S Poplar were officially removed from the registry, due to significant changes to the structures.
5. Mary Ann reviewed recommendations from RLS surveys done in 2002, 2008, 2010 and 2012. She compiled a list of 24 buildings/outbuildings designated as "A" structures built in or prior to 1941 that are not on the register which included three homes from the 2010 Cottonwood Street Study. We previously decided to wait a while to include homes built in the 1950s. We will take a tour in April to look at these homes and determine what we would like to add to the local register. The recommendations also included some homes that weren't "A" buildings but were along major corridors and could be threatened for demolitions. We can consider their historic significance at a later date.
6. Mary Ann submitted a CLG grant that will prepare a national registry nomination for the Hillside district and several individual buildings to include with the national registry multiple property update which has been prepared but hasn't been submitted yet. If needed, we can complete a feasibility study on the Mount Vernon area or the Flour Mill if it is needed for preservation.
7. Mary Ann noted that the oral history project is starting to move along a little faster. We may be able to complete all interviews and transcriptions by the June 30 deadline. But we are required to host a public meeting as part of the grant. We were planning to invite those who were interviewed to join us in the museum for a public open house in May. Mary Ann wondered if this would be more appropriate as part of Murray Museum Day in September. Board members liked this idea. Mary Ann will apply for a grant extension to accommodate this timing issue.

8. Ongoing and potential projects for the coming year were reviewed along with completed projects for this past year. These could be highlighted at a presentation to the City Council in May along with any Heritage Awards as part of National Historic Preservation Month. Peter suggested that a priority list of historic buildings and a discussion for preservation strategies should be a high priority.

Completed projects for 2012

1. List registry on web with photographs
2. Complete final RLS Survey for city
3. Update National Multiple Property listing (completed - not submitted yet)
4. UDOT/Cottonwood Street Research
5. Participate in Utah Shakeout activities, seismic education
6. Cleaned up museum back storage/new storage shelves

Potential Projects for 2013

1. Update policy and procedures for history/preservation and museum, including disaster recovery response and digitization plans, and encourage city policy/process to preserve permanent city records
 2. Work on Step Evaluation program to assure best practices in museum.
 3. Create a priority list of significant buildings and preservation strategies.
 4. Submit National Registry multiple property update with additional individual and Hillside District nominations.
 5. Update Local Registry with recommendations from RLS surveys for 1930-40s.
 6. Compile list of significant demolished historic buildings.
 7. Complete oral history project of seniors, museum reception for Museum Day.
 8. Design new city hall display cases with department themes/public input.
 9. Transfer oral history tapes to CDs with website access through U of U Marriott.
 10. Create listening stations in museum using sound bites from oral histories.
 11. Halloween stories activity in downtown Murray. Collaborate with Chamber.
 12. Participate in Power Department Centennial (written history, float, museum tours in old power building, display in city hall)
9. Mary Ann expressed concern about a legal document related to our project with the U of U Marriott Library to make our oral history tapes more accessible to the public. Some of the wording in the document which the library has asked us to sign, appears to give them the full rights to use the materials as they wish. We would like to give them the right to provide access to the materials through their website, but would like to maintain legal ownership of the materials so that we can control how it is used beyond website use by the general public. David wondered why we can't provide access on our site. Mary Ann said it takes up too much file space. Brittany said the Marriott Library is easier to navigate. Peter suggested we consult our city attorneys.
 10. Mary Ann asked where board members would prefer to locate the museum if a new city hall is built. There were pros for better access to have it built in the new city hall. But the historic power building is also a potential option. It has beautiful architecture and lots of space. Board members will drive by to look at it. David preferred city hall if they could increase the space. Our current museum space is too small.
 11. Mary Ann explained that a city employee, Mark Urry, has access to granite rocks found on city property in Little Cottonwood Canyon that feature drilling marks. He thinks they were used for

buildings in Murray and may have been dumped there. Peter, who is an archeologist, thought they were too big for building foundations. These were typically used for the SL Temple or larger buildings like the city/county building. He will look at some of the larger buildings to see if they may have used larger boulders for their foundations.

12. Next month we will discuss Center Street, museum policy and procedures, and preservation awards.