

## **Historic Preservation Commission Meeting**

Tuesday, February 12th, 2019, 3:00 PM

**Council Present:** R. Scott Phillips

**Historic Preservation Commission Members Present:** Janet McCrea, Ryan Paul, Maria Twitchell

**Staff Present:** Brad Abrams

**Others Present:** Stacy Thompson

**Call to Order:** Ryan Paul

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Janet McCrea

**Ryan Paul:** Approval of the minutes

**Scott Phillips:** Motion to approve the minutes.

**Janet McCrea:** Second

Approved Unanimously

**Public Agenda:** No public comments

### **Business Agenda:**

**Ryan Paul:** We will move on to the first item of the agenda because we have a historic sign unveiling after the meeting. The first item on the agenda is creating a historic downtown walking tour concept.

**Scott Phillips:** Actually, what I wanted to discuss was the idea that we—as a commission—need to look at what kind of standards we should get set into place for historic buildings in our community. Beyond what the federal government states, what do we want to encourage people to consider regarding their historic homes. I know that the City of Logan has a direct link to their guidelines for historic preservation. I want us to start thinking about what these should be. If there are things that other municipalities have done, we can implement with some adaptations and take these to the City Council to put some teeth into historic preservation.

**Maria Twitchell:** I think that we could start with the National Historic Preservation Guidelines provided by the National Park Service. They have a set of standards and guidelines that would be good to start with.

**Ryan Paul:** I love what you sent from the city of Westminster. Did everyone get a chance to look at this? There are things here that we could implement.

**Scott Phillips:** I love the one sent from Brad about the City of Logan. There are probably things in all these that will give us a place to start.

**Brad Abrams:** The danger in using the National Park Service Guidelines is that they might be too complex for the general public to understand. I realize that SHPO uses them and we will as well, but we do need something that will break them down and make the concept more understandable.

**Maria Twitchell:** If they do want to add their home to the National Register they would need to follow those standardizations, so we would need to make sure that this information is available. But if its somebody that would just like to preserve their home, we could create local guidelines.

**Scott Phillips:** We could then create links where they could click for further in-depth information. I guess I'm wondering what our next steps are. We all need to do our homework for next month and read this material to identify things that we would like to see set forth, so we can create an outline; and from that, create assignments for people to write copy, so it doesn't all fall on one person. I want to make sure that we keep moving this forward so that we can protect buildings before they are demolished., and we can encourage our community with the guidelines in a positive way.

**Maria Twitchell:** The document I sent out from the town of Westminster has a lot of what you're talking about in it.

**Ryan Paul:** I think that if we look at big picture and then try to focus down to the small items of what we want this to look like. I would argue that we should go through this stuff and at some point we set a half a day to meet in a whiteboard situation where we can identify what we want this to look like. Does this Historic Preservation Commission exist to just set Historic Guidelines or are we using history to design this community? I think that this document could eventually be moved into some policies that you present before City Council.

**Scott Phillips:** I agree, I want to make sure that we get our elected officials behind this, but I don't want to do it until we're ready and prepared with a clear focus on what we're trying to accomplish. I think that you're correct that part of what we do is historic preservation, but it's also to promote and enhance our community through historic preservation.

**Maria Twitchell:** I would like to see us identify an era of Cedar City where the architecture was prominent, and that architecture could then be incorporated into modern buildings. For example, when you look at Park City, they take the theme of "mountain modern" and present it throughout the community. It would be nice to take the era of when the National Parks were a prominent part of our community, and "parkitecture" was being implemented in so many ways in our homes. If we could see that being incorporated into how people build today. For example, in the past, front porches were important, and how many do we see today?

**Ryan Paul:** There is actually a great book called "The American Porch" which details the history of american porches and why they're important today.

**Maria Twitchell:** And the stacked stone and the rock were also very important features/

**Scott Phillips:** You see that in the Rock Church. If there is one architectural icon that still exists in our community, it must be the rock church.

**Maria Twitchell:** And you see it in the homes in the historic neighborhoods. I would like to see us lead out on how we would like our homes to look in the future. Heber Valley has a definite style with a bungalow, farmhouse type of construction that is striking.

**Janet McCrea:** That's great, and I really agree with all of you, especially Ryan's idea to have an afternoon where we get together and brainstorm the strategic level and then the tactical steps will follow.

**Ryan Paul:** So, if we can start, I agree with Brad that we don't have to copy the National Park Service information verbatim, but we can stylize it to meet our needs. Maria would you be willing to send the NPS link and Westminster stuff, and Brad can you send the link to Logan City. I would encourage us to look over this stuff this month and then we can meet and set a date.

**Scott Phillips:** And feel free to bring any other examples you find from other areas.

**Maria Twitchell:** Don't you think we can set a date to meet now?

**Ryan Paul:** Is this something that we want to do in March?

**Janet McCrea:** Can we hold it on the day that we have our regularly scheduled meeting? Maybe go from 2 - 5 pm or something?

**Maria Twitchell:** We could do this at my office.

**Ryan Paul:** Let's meet Tues, March 12th from 1-5 pm at the Tourism Bureau.

**Maria Twitchell:** We have an update about walking tours. We just hired Wyatt Ihler and we have talked with him about doing the Main Street Minutes. These will probably be up and running in the next year. I also want to task him with looking into some artificial intelligence software to compare old and new architecture as well.

**Ryan Paul:** Let's move on to the update on the grant application.

**Brad Abrams:** The grant is now submitted with \$5,000 in-kind, \$1,000 from the Tourism Bureau and \$2,000 from the City, making it an \$8,000 match to SHPO's \$8,000. I talked with SHPO and our application is approved but it hasn't been officially accepted. However, we should be good to go.

A couple things came up when I spoke with SHPO. They recommend that the bulk of what we do should be for the RLS Survey, we can determine what residential areas and how to categorize those when we have the state come down to assist. We also need to reserve \$5,000 for the Multiple Property Submission, which can include multiple surveys in one submission. We had a few categories that we used: Preservation Planning, which includes public meetings, recording of meetings, etc and Program Administration, which includes staff expenses for the management of the grant, etc.

**Scott Phillips:** Can we count the intern's hours?

**Brad Abrams:** Yes, at \$10.20 an hour, but I didn't include intern hours because we can meet the requirement without it.

**Janet McCrea:** Good job. Thank you.

**Ryan Paul:** If you could send us the application that would be wonderful. Also, I know that we had a few emails back and forth about a visit from Roger and the new Historic Preservation Officer. At this point it hasn't happened.

**Scott Phillips:** We still need to have Roger Roper come down.

**Brad Abrams:** I believe that SHPO will come down and help us when we start to decide areas for the RLS surveys.

**Scott Phillips:** What do we need to do to get the historic downtown area designated?

**Ryan Paul:** I think that you're right that this is important.

**Brad Abrams:** We can tell the SHPO officer or whoever and prioritize the downtown as our main area for the survey.

**Ryan Paul:** No matter what we do, this will be about overcoming people's fears that we are going to come in and tell them what they can do with their property.

**Maria Twitchell:** Can we start with a local designation of the Cedar City Historic Downtown.

**Brad Abrams:** Once we get the grant, I'm sure they will want to assist us with how the survey and multiple property submission processes will happen. It seems like they want to have some control, and that's good because we can give input on categories and what we want designated. I don't really know the process at this point.

**Scott Phillips:** What is the follow-up on this? Should we have Roger Roper come down...

**Brad Abrams:** Let's wait until the application is approved and then we can move forward.

**Ryan Paul:** At that point, we may have a much more filled out framework, especially after we meet about design guidelines.

**Maria Twitchell:** Can you send out the invite to the Google Drive again?

**Brad Abrams:** Yes, and we should make this the place where we add these documents.

**Ryan Paul:** So, website information, what's this item about?

**Brad Abrams:** Aleese had asked that this be added to our agenda. I think that this goes back to the GIS Mapping. And, I didn't mention this earlier, but SHPO has said that they will do all our GIS Mapping of the District.

**Scott Phillips:** I think that she may have been talking about having information to put on a website about the Historic Preservation Commission.

**Brad Abrams:** I manage the City website, and I can put any information that you need on the site. Once we have the standards, we should put those up as well. Right now, the site says your names, the commission's purpose, and some other information about our history. It has a little bit about the historic district with a GIS map of the boundary. I was looking at the 13 or 14 homes that are historically significant, but there are other structures that we might want to include with pictures. The intern has been working on some of these projects.

**Maria Twitchell:** Will you make sure the intern gets permission before taking pictures. You'll want that. I've been threatened with lawsuits for taking a picture of someone's home and putting it out there.

**Ryan Paul:** It's a good way to build relationships of trust.

**Brad Abrams:** If that's the case, maybe we shouldn't have an intern building those relationships, maybe it should be one of us?

**Scott Phillips:** I think it's okay if they introduce themselves on behalf of the Historic Preservation Commission.

**Brad Abrams:** I'll tell the intern. I don't think that he has taken any pictures at this point.

**Janet McCrea:** And speaking of pictures, how about adding the sign on the website?

**Brad Abrams:** I've already taken what Maria gave us and put it on the site.

**Ryan Paul:** Let's circle back, do you have anything you want to add [addressing the student in the audience]. If not, let's go ahead and adjourn from this portion of the meeting to the unveiling of the sign.

**Scott Phillips:** I make a motion to adjourn.

**Janet McCrea:** Second

Approved Unanimously