Great Falls/Cascade County Historic Preservation Advisory Commission

MINUTES from the April 14, 2011 meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Milford, Carol Bradley, Kelly Parks, Joan Redeen, Ryan Forde, Ken Sievert, Carol Bronson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jerry McKinney, Judy Ellinghausen

STAFF PRESENT: Ellen Sievert

Chairperson Bob Milford called the meeting to order at 12 noon. Carol Bronson moved and Ken Sievert seconded a motion to adopt the minutes from the March 2011 meeting. They were unanimously approved.

HPAC also met the day before, April 13, but was unable to take action on several items because of a lack of a quorum. Commissioners present for that meeting agreed to meet again on the 14th so that several items could be acted upon. Guests present at the April 13 meeting were Cascade County Commissioner Jane Weber and Kate Hampton from SHPO's Community Preservation Program. Commissioner Weber said she planned to attend future HPAC meetings when she can. Kate Hampton discussed several ideas she had, including the possibility of nominating Hill 57 as a historical district and coming to Great Falls to give a talk to local real estate agents about differing housing styles. Kate also brought welcome news that \$1,500 in Certified Local Government money has been approved to help pay the printing costs of a new Northside walking tour brochure. Ellen said HPAC now needs to find matching money, possibly from either TBID or the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Joan Redeen added that the BID might be able to help fund the project.

Ellen also reported that HPAC did not get a \$15,000 grant that had been expected from the Montana Preservation Association. The money would have gone to help stabilize the Boston & Montana barn in Black Eagle. Ellen said she was told only that MPA was giving the money to the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena instead.

PRESERVE AMERICAN GRANT MEETING: Ellen, city comprehensive planner Brant Birkeland and Deputy Planning Director Wendy Thomas attended a training session in Helena, where they were advised to hire a consultant to review Great Falls' new technical assistance program and conduct the first two studies. Ellen said she was pleased with the good turnout at the April 4 Montana Main Street presentation on historically appropriate storefronts.

Commissioner Bob Milford discussed his participation in the Montana Site Stewardship Training, which took place in Bozeman April 6-7. Bob will now be monitoring certain archaeological sites and reporting any signs of tampering or vandalism.

ACTION ITEMS:

- --HPAC discussed applications from three area residents for a three-year term on the commission. Given his extensive contributions to HPAC and his continued service as an ex-officio member, Carol Bradley moved and Carol Bronson seconded a motion to recommend Ken Robison to a new term. The vote was unanimous.
- --Ellen presented a list of Preservation Awards nominees. Carol Bradley moved and Kelly Parks seconded the motion to adopt the list. The vote was unanimous. Receiving awards are "Trolley Lady" Carol Place; Giant Springs State Park preservation plan and Roe Island restoration project and PPL Montana; the Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local #3 and associated craftsmen and contributors; the United Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church bell tower stabilization project. A special award and a check for \$500 will be given to the new owners of the Columbus Center, Ken and Bob Dreyer, to go toward listing the property with the National Register. The Preservation Award reception will be held May 12.

--2011 Christmas ornament. Ken Sievert moved and Kelly Parks seconded a motion to feature the Ursuline Center as HPAC's Christmas ornament this year. The center turns 100 in 2012.

HPAC's next regular meeting is at noon May 11 at the Ursuline Center.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Bradley HPAC secretary