

**Great Falls/Cascade County
Historic Preservation Advisory Commission**

**MINUTES from the
November 14, 2012 meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Milford, Ken Sievert, Carol Bronson, Carole Ann Clark, Carol Bradley, Kelly Parks, Sandi French, Ken Robison, Ryan Forde, Ex-officio member Joan Redeen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kristi Scott

STAFF PRESENT: Ellen Sievert

GUESTS: Cascade County Commissioner Jane Weber; Vista employee Bethany Salmon.

HPAC Chairperson Bob Milford called the meeting to order at 12 noon. Ken Robison moved to approve minutes from the October 2012 meeting. Carol Bronson seconded the motion and commissioners approved the minutes unanimously.

HPO REPORT: Ellen's activities of the past month included helping plan the Montana Downtown Conference; meeting with Technical Assistance Program participants and Randy Hafer of High Plains Architects; participating in the Great Falls Development Authority brown fields assessment meeting; and preparing a presentation for the National Preservation Conference in Spokane. The topic of her talk: "Start in Great Falls and Get Lost in Montana."

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT: With the help of a page one story in the Tribune, the first 250 Great Falls High Christmas ornaments sold out in a matter of hours. A second batch has been ordered and HPAC will probably need to order a third round, Ellen said.

MONARCH DEPOT: Cascade County Commissioner Jane Weber reported that the Monarch group overseeing the saving of the Monarch train depot have named themselves the Monarch/Neihart Heritage Society and will work with Bill Bronson to acquire 501 (c) (3) status. The EPA tested soil outside the building and determined that while it contains some lead, it is not hazardous. Also, there is no asbestos in the building. Jane has requested a letter from MDOT following through on the \$25,000 that's supposed to be set aside for the roof, getting the land turned over to the proper entity and establishing the commitments that are to be kept by the county and the newly formed heritage society as a result of the ownership transfer.

SUN RIVER VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Ken Robison reported that local history buff Dick Thoroughman and Ken are preparing a series of interpretive signs for installation at Fort Shaw National Historic District. The J.C. Adams Stone Barn Company will not be taken over by the Sun River Valley Historical Society, Ken said, but will remain under the current non-profit.

CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW COMMITTEE: Committee chairman Carol Bradley reported that the committee will heed a recommendation from Kate Hampton of SHPO and start small, focusing on the north side of the 1400 block of 1st Avenue North. Committee members will research the architectural details of the houses and learn about the people who owned them and submit their work to Kate for feedback. The ultimate goal is to create a craftsman district in Great Falls.

CHRISTMAS PARTY: HPAC members agreed to hold our annual Christmas party at 5:30 p.m. December 12.

HPAC's next regular meeting is at noon January 9 in the Rainbow Room of the Civic Center.

Respectfully submitted by
Carol Bradley
HPAC secretary

