

**Great Falls/Cascade County  
Historic Preservation Advisory Commission  
Minutes from the September 9, 2015 Meeting**

**Members Present:** Carole Ann Clark, Sandra French, Paivi Hoikkala, Ruthann Knudson, Kelly Parks, Ken Sievert

**Members Absent:** Kenneth Robison, Ryan Smith, Kristi Scott

**Staff Present:** Ellen Sievert, Gregory Gordos

**Ex-Officio Present:** Joan Redeen, Robert Milford, Jane Weber

**Guests Present:** Kristen McGuire, John Taillie

HPAC Chair Sandi French called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM & requested approval of the August 12<sup>th</sup> minutes. Ruthann Knudson made the motion & Kelly Parks seconded. With a few minor corrections, the minutes were approved unanimously. The new roster for the HPAC was handed out to everyone.

**HPO Report:** Ellen will continue working with the Montana Main Street group, but will not be involved in the grant writing process, as that is now done by the Downtown Development Partnership. She will be attending the annual CLG meeting in Bozeman Sept. 24-26, along with Ken Robison & Greg Gordos. The Rainbow Powerhouse Repurposing Committee will meet in September; they are still awaiting responses to the request for feasibility studies.

**Brief Updates:** The National Heritage Area Strategic Planning Board had very productive meetings Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, with Mark Willmarth facilitating. The direction and purpose of the board was better defined, and a tentative definition of the geographic boundaries of the NHA was agreed on. Cascade & Chouteau counties will be included, with the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument an important component. Greg Gordos will produce a large map with the contributing sites identified.

The First Peoples Buffalo Jump NHL will have a celebration event on September 25, which is also American Indian Heritage Day. Members of the HPAC are included in the invitation-only evening, and the Commission was requested to sponsor the liquid refreshments, as well as serving them. Ruthann Knudson made a motion to that effect, and Kelly Parks seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Walking Tour Brochures need some editing in order to be available online. The River's Edge History brochures are all gone. After some re-working, they will be reprinted; Gregory Gordos is soliciting bids for the job. In order to be eligible for grants from certain sources, three bids must be obtained. Jane Weber asked about making an app available for phones. The Chamber of Commerce will be the umbrella agency for all the City tourism groups; they may have ideas to increase distribution of the brochures. As far as State tourism grants go, the HPAC is the City host for grant purposes. Rebecca Engum, the new head of the Great Falls Tourism Alliance, will be invited to be an ex-officio member of the HPAC.

Kelly Parks moved and Paivi Hoikkala seconded to make the Russell studio the 2015 Christmas ornament. Sheree Nelson will be asked to submit sketches for the design. Sales cleared \$300 last year.

**Announcements/Other Business/Public Comment:** Bob Milford said the Fort Shaw annual open house tour attracted over 40 people. Ellen announced the grant writing workshop sponsored by the HPAC will be in the Gibson Room October 19<sup>th</sup>, for a maximum of 15 people. Ken Sievert praised the great job done on painting the Russell home. The History Conference is in Bozeman Sep. 24-26 & the Society for Industrial Archaeology will enjoy a tour & presentation by the Preservation Players Oct. 8-10.

**Next Regular Meeting:** October 14, 2015. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM  
Respectfully submitted, Carole Ann Clark, Secretary