

**Great Falls/Cascade County
Historic Preservation Advisory Commission
Minutes from the February 10, 2016 Meeting**

Members Present: Carole Ann Clark, Sandra French, Paivi Hoikkala, Kelly Parks, Kenneth Robison

Members Absent: Ruthann Knudson, Kristi Scott, Ken Sievert, Ryan Smith

Staff Present: Ellen Sievert, Gregory Gordos

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

Guests Present: Andrew Finch, Brad Livingston, Sheree Nelson

Acting Chair/Vice President Paivi Hoikkala called the meeting to order at 12:03. After Roll Call, introductions went around the table. The minutes from the January 13, 2016 meeting were approved.

HPO Report: After everyone perused the report, Ellen said she will be on vacation February 19th-28th.

Brief Updates: Greg Gordos has sent a request to TBID for help covering the costs of printing new Walking Tour Brochures; he will solicit new bids.

Paivi Hoikkala is preparing a talk which may be given at a joint meeting including the Committee for International Affairs later in the Spring. She will speak at the Great Falls Public Library February 11th. The presentation to the State Review Board by Ellen Sievert and Carol Bradley of the nomination to the National Register for the East Side Historic District was a resounding success, and unanimously approved with a few minor edits. Several members of the HPAC attended.

Ornament sales have been brisk; monies from these sales are designated strictly for the HPAC.

The Upper Missouri River Heritage Area (UMRHA) will hold its next meeting April 1. Bill Bronson and Jane Weber are reviewing the final language for the application for 501(c)3 status; HPAC will give some funds for the application. We appreciate the pro-bono legal advice Bill provides. At the last strategic planning meeting, which Mark Willmarth facilitated, Alex Hernandez of the National Park Service participated. Partners include Carol Bronson, representing Downtown, and Michael Duchemin, Director of the CMR Museum. Randy Morger, director of the Fort Benton Museums, is also a voting member. The Grand Tour II will be held Friday, April 1 (no fooling!) at the Civic Center from 5:30-7:30 PM.

Accomplishments of the past year will be highlighted. The National Park Service is impressed with the partnerships and themes already developed; a feasibility study must be part of the request to become a National Heritage Area, and Congress must approve it. \$50,000 dollars must be raised in the next year, as well. HPAC will provide \$100 as a sponsor of the Grand Tour II event.

Action Items: Artist Sheree Nelson brought several examples of logos for the HPAC to look at. She will provide options based on our input and the Commission will choose one to represent us.

At the City Commission meeting March 1, the Mayor will introduce the members of the HPAC. Each person will mention one of the roles/accomplishments of the Commission.

Ellen Sievert, Carol Bronson, and Kristi Scott will meet to update HPAC Goals & Objectives. Included will be a policy statement on letters of support for grant applications (applicants must be non-profit and preservation oriented)

Announcements/Other Business/Public Comment: Kelly Parks is the newest board member of Habitat for Humanity. Paivi Hoikkala will be gone for the March and April meetings.

Next Regular Meeting: March 9, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carole Ann Clark, Secretary

