

**Great Falls/Cascade County  
Historic Preservation Advisory Commission  
Minutes from the July 13, 2016 Meeting**

**Members Present:** Carole Ann Clark, Del Darko, Paivi Hoikkala, Ruthann Knudson, Kenneth Robison, Kristi Scott, Ken Sievert

**Members Absent:** Sandra French, Ryan Smith

**Staff Present:** Tom Micuda, Craig Raymond

**Ex-Officio Present:** Joan Redeen

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM by Acting Chair Paivi Hoikkala, followed by Roll Call. Ken Robison moved that the June minutes be approved, and Ruthann Knudson seconded; approval was unanimous. The HPO report will be presented in September, once an acting HPO is in place.

**Brief Updates:** Ken Robison and Ruthann Knudson spoke on the Upper Missouri River Heritage Area. The boundary task force is suggesting ~~areas to be included~~ alternative examples for boundaries. The first ~~w~~ould be the River floodplain plus 2 miles on either side, with expansion into Great Falls and the First People's Buffalo Jump. Another would go from the North border of Fort Benton down to the Gates of the Mountains. Including Belt and Monarch as gateway communities may be recommended. ~~An amendment might allow private land owners to opt out: reaction is being sought from private property owners~~. While the legal definition of the UMRHA may be restrictive, the area may be broadened for marketing purposes. The task force has gotten generally positive reactions from Fort Benton and Lewis & Clark county. The new interpretive signs are up at the Vinegar Jones Cabin, and many people visited during the Lewis & Clark Festival. Ken Sievert researched approved oil finishes for the exterior. The City Commission will meet July 19<sup>th</sup>; the budget for the HPAC/HPO will be discussed. The HPAC must continue to hold meetings and have at least an interim HPO to keep CLG status.

**Action Items:** Ruthann Knudson moved and Ken Robison seconded that Gregory Gordos be appointed as interim HPO. In a separate action, Kristi Scott moved & Del Darko seconded that Gregory also be named the HPAC representative to the DDP. Both motions passed unanimously. If funding for the HPO position is secured, Ruthann, Ken, and Paivi volunteered to be on a committee that would be formed by the Planning and Community Development Department to review the position's job description as well as how the open HPO position should be advertised for the hiring process. Finally, no action will be taken at this time on the solar panel farm proposal adjoining the Lewis & Clark Portage area.

**Announcements/Other Business/Public Comment:** Del Darko gave details on the Belt field trip scheduled for July 14. The website was given for the School Building Plan.

The Western Planners Annual Conference will held in Great Falls on August 10-12. Gregory will send conference details to the HPAC members, as they may want to attend the session on National Heritage Areas.

The next regular meeting will be September 14, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Ann Clark, Secretary.