AURORA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
Tuesday, February 12, 2019
6:30 p.m.

Community Gallery
Aurora History Museum
15051 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO

Present: Chair Gordon Tucker, Vice Chair Elizabeth Hamilton, Secretary Lynne Evans, Charlie Peters, Michael Ackman, Julie Weinheimer, and Michael Lockwood
Absent:
Excused: Amy Bailey
Staff: Scott Williams, Drake Brownfield
Guests: Garry O’ Hara, Chris Geddes, Courtney Morehouse, and Megan Berens

I. Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chair Gordon Tucker called the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC or Commission) meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The minutes from the HPC regular meeting on January 8, 2018 were accepted as corrected via motion.

II. Staff Report

Historic Preservation Specialist Drake Brownfield explained the Section 106 compliance process to the Commission.

Section 106 reviews: No reviews affecting historic properties.

Melvin-Lewis Cemetery: No progress.

Centennial House: New signage is finalized and should be installed by end of March.

Smoky Hill Train Signage: The sign placement needs to be finalized.

Loafing Shed: Construction contract approval underway.

Landmark Booklet: The Landmark Booklet has been updated. Drake had copies to distribute to commissioners.

DeLaney Farm: Public hearing for the Approval of the placement of a Little Library at DeLaney Farm will be on the March agenda.

Coal Creek Ramp: The AW Architectural drawing for the Coal Creek School ramp was presented to the Commission. A public hearing for approval will be held at the March HPC meeting.

Fox Grant: The State Historical Fund denied the grant application. Drake will look over the reviewers’ notes, make changes, and resubmit the grant in April 2019.

Maintenance of Landmarks: Gully House, Coal Creek, and the Fitzsimons Guardhouse repairs are being completed. The roof of the Fox Quonset hut needs repair. A galvanized roof to be placed over the current roof has been proposed as the most cost-effective solution. The roof repair would most likely take place in July or August. Commissioners were concerned this would compromise the historical integrity of the building. Drake will update the HPC on this process at the March 2019 meeting.

Stanley Aviation Guard Shack: No progress.

Valentines: A Valentine campaign for historic sites in Aurora was promoted on FaceBook.

Budget: The 2019 HPC budget is $6,600.
III. Old Business

**Tax Credit Resolution:** Historic Preservation Specialist Drake Brownfield gave the Commission a presentation on the Tax Credit Resolution. It will be the HPC's task to do a preliminary review of Tax Credit Project Proposals in Aurora. From now on, it will be the HPC's responsibility to complete a preliminary review of Tax Credit Project Proposals in Aurora.

**Lowry Building 880 Signage:** Chris Geddes contacted the USAFA alumni group. It is possible that the Wings Over the Rockies Museum has memorabilia from the classes of 1959, 1960, & 1961.

**Strait Lumber:** The Strait Lumber Landmark Nomination is under review by Mark Strait.

**1557 Dallas:** No progress.

**Cultural Heritage Sites:** Commissioner Ackman talked about designating an Aurora trailer park permanent structures as a possible Cultural Heritage site, as well as the Friend Furniture Building and Mt. Nebo Cemetery.

**Plains Conservation Center:** There will be an open house at the PCC on March 2nd from 11-2. Drake Brownfield and Gordon Tucker will participate in the talks to develop a master plan for the site. They will also investigate designating the site as a cultural heritage site.

**Site plan report:** Commissioner Weinheimer gave her site report for the Fitzsimons buildings. All seem to be in good repair with the exception of the War Mother's Memorial House which is in disrepair.

VIII. New Business

**Sub-Committees:** Historic Preservation Specialist Drake Brownfield proposed that the HPC develop subcommittees for Events, Outreach and Advocacy, and Designations. Commissioners were asked to think about possible subcommittee participation.

**Newspaper Digitization Project:** Commissioner Evans stated that the project needs $10,070.22 to complete the digitization. The Aurora Museum Foundation will donate $5,000. She asked if the HPC would also donate. The matter will be discussed at a later date.

**Talking Points:** Talking points to use for ward meetings and other events were discussed. Drake will try to find talking points or we will need to develop new ones.

**Items for the March 12, 2019 meeting will include:**

- Update on Smoky Hill Trail Marker
- Update on Melvin-Lewis Cemetery landmark nomination
- Update on Strait Lumber landmark nomination
- Update of 1557 Dallas landmark nomination
- Update on Lowry Building 880 interpretive signage
- Cultural Heritage site ideas
- Report on Wards meetings
- Master plan for Plains Conservation Center/consideration as a cultural heritage site
- Coal Creek Ramp Public Hearing
- Subcommittees
- Talking Points
- Site Plan Report: Smokey Hill Region: Gordon Tucker

VI. Adjournment:

The Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:21 p.m.