

Historical Preservation Commission meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

(Special thanks to Lindy)

Those present: Tina Serna, Leslie Griffith, Rick Barandes, Kate Vasha, Patrick Eidman, Kim Smoyer

Rick moved to approve minutes from the last meeting, November 18; Leslie seconded; all approved.

Kim announced receipt of a planning grant for \$34,000 to continue the downtown revitalization effort. Will use Williams Engineering, LLC out of Gunnison.

Andrew Archuleta is looking at finding funding to do the infrastructure all at one time. If that grant gets approved then the balance will be a 0-percent-interest loan for the remainder of the project. Timeframe: Hope to start work this summer.

Hammel Superette update: Kim talked with Cynthia Nieb with the State Historical Fund. They have a one-time-only demo grant available this year, which has to be in a rural place and involve economic development. Cynthia will do a site visit on Feb. 18th at 11:00. Deb, Cynthia, Patrick, Belinda, Kim will meet on the 18th at the Superette. Kim will start on the grant after holidays.

Bottom line for the Historic Preservation Commission: Before April 1st the building has to be designated as a historic landmark. Patrick will work on getting the process started. The Commission must have an ordinance approved by the town board before we can go forward with this designation.

Colorado Preservation Inc. is having a conference in early February in Denver for anybody who wants to go.

Patrick has been in communication with Dan Corson from the Historical Society; he is willing to review our draft ordinance before we present it to the town board. Although the town is not yet a Certified Local Government, it is important that we get comments and make revisions. Once we have Dan's blessing we will be a legitimate group to get grant funding. This should not be an issue since we seem to be heading in the right direction.

Kate will get the ordinance to Dan ASAP, then after one more round with this commission schedule discussion with the town board. Once the board passes the ordinance, the town will apply for CLG status.

Patrick thinks ordinance is good—questions about it having “teeth.” Has to be design review for a landmarked building but also anything within a historic district—i.e., new construction, demolition, renovation. Design element must be in ordinance. Many documents and processes are dynamic—should not be big deal to change over time. (Owner consent? Not owner consent? etc.) Keep the process fluid—set up how information will be given to public.

Kate: Need to present the ordinance town board and planning commission at the same time in interest of time.

There followed an extended review of the draft ordinance.