

Minutes, Cheyenne Historic Preservation Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date & Time: January 14, 2025 – 6:00 pm
Meeting Place: Zoom and Council Chambers

Before roll call was taken, Mr. Simpson took the time to introduce the newest city council rep to the board “Ken Esquibel”.

Mr. Esquibel gave a brief introduction to the board.

1. Roll Call

- X Milward Simpson, Chair
- X Amber Conwell, Vice Chair
- X Cathie Tabor-Douglas, Secretary
- X Gary Sims
- X David Benner
- X Don Herrold
- X Josh Chrysler
- X Elisabeth DeGrenier
- X Patrick Bustos

2. Election of Officers

Mr. Sims made a motion for Ms. Conwell, Ms. Tabor Douglas, and Mr. Simpson continue with their responsibilities on the Board.

Mr. Bustos second the motion.

All members voted yes for the above motion. Note. the chair recused himself from the vote.

3. Approval of Minutes from: November 12, 2024

Mr. Simpson stated a correction needs to be made to the minutes where it discusses the Dubois and LeClercq nomination forms.

Mr. Bustos moved to approve the minutes from December’s meeting.

Ms. Conwell seconded the motion.

The Board voted and the minutes were approved.

4. Disclosures

Nothing to report.

5. Audience Business: Comments from the Audience (Each limited to 5 minutes, please)

No participation.

6. Comments/Report from City Council Rep.

Councilman Esquibel discussed the pumphouse stating they have received reports from engineers, which would result in mothballing. It would cost roughly 1 million dollars or 4 million if partnered with the chamber of commerce, and that it would be best to go forward with total renovation of that building. A decision will be made in the next couple of weeks at goal setting. The master plan for parks and rec just came out and is published on the city website. A railroad grant was given for 2.6 million dollars for closing 3 crossings on the Reed Avenue corridor. That funding might be put on the six-penny tax next year. The 15th street railroad experience, and they should be ready for transportation later this summer. The council is requiring any minutes be forwarded to the council representative to make edits if necessary. Mr. Esquibel also mentioned coming across a notice to rename Snyder avenue to Martin Luther King Blvd.

Mr. Chrysler stated that he briefly remembers something from when Lonnie Olson was the Board representative roughly a year ago.

Mr. Benner stated the board was not the group that originally recommended that.

Councilman Esquibel stated he will look into it, and when they were naming the fountain, they wanted to name it after a female of significant importance.

Mr. Simpson asked for any new policy requirements.

Mr. Esquibel stated it would be straight forward with the board like this, and they would need 300 signatures if a citizen of the city, and the person must be deceased for 2 years. He also noted the Dubois triangle is the only change that has come through since the naming policy was implemented.

Mr. Simpson encouraged the board to comment on the parks master plan.

Mr. Esquibel stated that they have been in contact with the Union Pacific railroad to moving the Big Boy Locomotive to the Plaza downtown. They are trying to make a deal for exchange in parts and replacement in parts for both locomotives. If moved to downtown there will be a protective display.

Mr. Simpson asked if this is something the governing body wanted to make happen sooner or later?

Mr. Esquibel answered yes.

Ms. Conwell asked about the locations and asked for a preference.

Mr. Esquibel answered his preference is at the depot on the side strip and that some other members do not want it directly in front of the plaza. He spoke with Jason Sanchez and stated underground infrastructure would cause the cost to go up double. They will work on the display first and Nortec would aid in setting up the panels the locomotive would set in, then they would focus on fencing and lighting.

Mr. Benner asked if they were going to move the one at Lions Park as well.

Mr. Esquibel answered yes it will be part of 15th Street railroad experience.

Mr. Benner asked if the train car owned by a private entity will remain there as well?

Mr. Esquibel answered the offer has been made and he will follow up.

Mr. Simpson asked if the allocated money for the pump house will aid in bringing in an expert to keep the original characteristics of that building.

Mr. Esquibel answered yes it will be in the structural engineering report and that the historic integrity of

that building be maintained. The funding source will be discussed next.

Mr. Simpson stated passing the mothball portion will be a great experience and applauds the city council.

7. Comments/Report from Urban Planning Office Rep.

Mr. Mores (The newest representative from planning and development) introduced himself to the board.

Mr. Simpson asked if there were any updates for them. There were none.

8. Strategic Goals Report

Mr. Simpson explained to Mr. Mores and Mr. Esquibel the format of the meeting and how they go through the agenda.

Cheyenne Homes with History –

Mr. Sims. Explained what homes with history is and how they are designing signs for historic homes in Cheyenne.

National Register of Historic Places –

Mr. Chrysler gave an update that him and Amber decided to move forward with Elizabeth to do both the airport national registration and African American history context study. The airport portion is signed and executed and is unsure about the progress of the second one.

Ms. DeGrenier stated she had not seen the first one and had not gotten the second one. She is waiting on the mayor's signature and then being sent to her. The specific document is the actual contract.

Mr. Simpson stated the importance of black history and hopefully we can create a district going forward.

Mr. Esquibel stated the signs for the north historic capital district signs have not yet been posted. There are two styles of signs, and he is curious as to why there are two different ones.

*This is a planning and development matter.

Oral Histories Project-

Mr. Chrysler gave an update for creating a Cheyenne Oral History Plan, the committee met after the holidays, and they have put together guidelines, policies, procedures, and a track sheet for the oral histories that are being done. They need to figure if the release form from the city attorney will work for the state archives. He told the board how he still needs to get his edits into Mr. Bustos.

Mr. Bustos stated as soon as he gets the edits, he can get that completed. He also brought up two subjects. Anyone can participate in the meetings; you need to go to the library and rent a studio and there is an information sheet provided. The protocol sheet is for the board to follow, the information sheet is for the applicant. He also created a spreadsheet so he can ask for recommendations for interviews.

Mr. Sims stated a centralized training would be a good idea to aid in the process and get everyone on the

same page.

Mr. Bustos stated they could set up a training session at the library.

Ms. DeGrenier stated she spoke to Sara Davis from archives and that she was fine with the cities release form. Edits will need to be made, so please add this to the docket.

Historic Preservation Month-

Mr. Herrold stated they put nomination forms on Facebook this year and they only received two nominations. Both being residential properties. If the award would like to be presented, must use own resources to nominate a recipient, and curious if anyone know any business locations they have in mind. As of now there is no nominee for a commercial building. January 1st was the deadline to get this in. Mr. Herrold was unaware of how it was advertised and only knew of the Facebook page.

Mr. Simpson asked if they wanted to reopen this to the public and give it a deadline of February 1.

Mr. Sims said we should not confuse it and focus on the two candidates at hand for this month.

The two properties discussed were 813 E 19th St and Officers Quarters #65 FE Warren AFB. Addresses that state "Cheyenne, Wyoming" can be used.

Mr. Sims gave an update on what is considered CHEYENNE WYOMING and eligibility. This is where the AFB is questioned, and as a former postmaster, it is indeed.

Mr. Benner asked if an award was given if the AFB would allow us to put a plaque up?

Ms. Conwell stated they are rented houses not permanent residences. This brings the question if a barrack is a residential area.

Mr. Benner answered the building itself would be given the award.

Ms. Conwell asked what is special about this brick home to get it on the register.

Mr. Simpson stated the buffalo soldier brings it significance and there is a resource officer out there that's responsibility is to restore and preserve the old building on base.

Mr. Benner stated the significance of the barrack and the history of why it is significant, primarily due to buffalo soldiers.

Mr. Herrold said he would like to pursue the Dubois award to the first location.

Mr. Simpson stated he would like a bit more significance on the property.

Mr. Sims made a motion to approve 813 E 19th Street based on the Board members reviewing it and seeing that it meets the criteria.

Mr. Simpson stated he was sided with the base, and they will entertain the motion. He stated his opinions on why he prefers the base.

Mr. Benner second the motion.

Mr. Chrysler stated he is not comfortable voting, because he does not know what he is voting on.

Mr. Bustos stated he is in the same situation.

Mr. Herrold stated he sent them to the committee and the criteria was only eight questions.

Ms. DeGrenier asked what the process was for the awards?

Mr. Simpson answered the public does the nominations.

Ms. Tabor Douglas claimed she had made suggestions on another house, but Don had never received it. It is a historic structure with original carriage house and stable in backyard.

Ms. DeGrenier also stated she has not seen the nominations, so she does not know what she is voting for.

A vote was taken with three Aye's one No, and 3 abstains.

Mr. Herrold stated he will get the other property to the board to consider, and this will be revisited next month.

Mr. Esquibel asked about the Cheyenne address and if the area has to be annexed?

Mr. Herrold stated it has to have a Cheyenne mailing address to be considered.

Mr. Chrysler asked what authority they do have with the criteria?

Mr. Herrold stated they are the board, and it is their final say.

Mr. Simpson analyzed the rules and stated it is reasonable if Cheyenne is listed on someone's postal address it shall be considered Cheyenne. If we wanted to get very official, we could ask for a City Attorneys opinion. He then read the designations on page 7.

Mr. Esquibel stated they are waiting to hear back from the AFB for annexation into the city, and they have 3 months left for action.

Mr. Simpson continued on page 7 and found an article stating historic landmarks must have significance to the "Community".

Mr. Herrold stated he would like to have a meeting and will set up a time and day.

Education of the Public in Historic Preservation-

Mr. Benner had no updates and was going to meet with Mr. Mores regarding the item and a possible presentation that was previously made.

Marketing Committee-

Mr. Herrold stated there was no meeting and would set up a meeting middle of next month.

Ornaments –

Mr. Sims updated Mr. Mores and Mr. Esquibel about the airport fountain and ways to fund that. They ended up selling ornaments specific to preservation and were able to raise enough to do the fountain. This is the sole income for this group.

Mr. Simpson stated he would get a budget update from Mr. Bloom.

Airport Fountain Planning-

Mr. Simpson stated his progress on the project for weather resistant displays that would tell the history. What would this cost for maintenance, beautification etc. Stated they have the ability through a \$150,000 estate gift restricted to the airport fountain with city parks, therefore establishing airport city park. They cannot get an answer from the parks department of what it would cost to replace the pump. The board wanted to bring this to Mr. Esquibel's attention.

Mr. Sims reiterated the issue with the funds and the pump at hand. Plat Hollow Road was brought up "a graphic design company" that has given a quote for the fountain of 60-80 thousand dollars.

Ms. Conwell presented a design of the project to the board.

9. Old Business

Mr. Bustos brought up the closing of the elementary schools (-Miller). He wanted to put together a presentation about the school before the closing. He wants to know if this is something the Board wants to get involved in.

Mr. Herrold was assigned with contacting Deming. He was also curious what would happen to the building after it closed.

Mr. Esquibel asked about the CHBP plaque and if it has been approved or not? There was an error he found regarding Knight of Pythias.

Mr. Sims asked if timesheets will continue. They will.

10. New Business

There was none

11. Other Business

Mr. Bustos asked about planning the strategic meeting for time, date and venue at the strategic planning retreat.

Mr. Bustos asked the Planning staff about the public notice at E Lincolnway and Morrie on the white building.

Ms. Fagan answered it was a project for an applicant to move a private residence and rebuilding apartments on the property. Mr. Esquibel confirmed this.

The meeting adjourned at 7:36pm

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