

Providence Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

April 26, 2006 6:00 p.m.

Those Present: Commission members: Karl Seethaler, Adrian Gale, Kaye Lyn Harris,
Marie Olsen, Alma Leonhardt
City Council: Kathy Baker, Trent Rasmussen
Others: Rachel Gianni

Minutes taken by Brenda Nelson

Motion to approve minutes of Jan. 31, 2006 by A. Gale. Second by A. Leonhardt. All in favor.

ITEM 1. Update on Oral History Interviews

R. Gianni is working on the oral history interviews. She planned to complete phase one of the project by interviewing John Ream, Opal Chugg and Ivan Christensen. She has arranged interviews with Opal Chugg and Ivan Christensen, but John Ream does not want to be interviewed. She asked the Commission to give her some other names of people to interview. Jay Hicken was not able to attend this meeting, but he offered a written suggestion that we interview the past mayors of the City. He provided a list of questions concerning City issues that could be used in the interview. The Commission members felt this was a good idea. The grant has a completion date of October 2006. Along with the mayors, we still need a few additional names. Some of those suggested are: Darrell Bodrero, Marie Thompson, Suzanne Gettman, David & Pam Riffe, Linda Goetze and Jeff Strong. Some of these have not lived in the City very long. The Commission urged Marie Olsen to agree to be interviewed.

K. Baker suggested Ivan Palmblad as a person with a non-LDS perspective. The Commission would like to interview more women. Some suggestions are: Vada Rinderknecht, Connie Hammond, Nora Hansen, Dorothy Murphy, Ivaloo Pierre. Following a discussion, the Commission told R. Gianni to interview the following: Glade Davis, Gary Millburn, Carl Spear, Nate Done, Alma Leonhardt, Marie Olsen, Ivan Palmblad, Vada Rinderknecht and Ivaloo Pierre. This will complete the rest of phase one and also complete the grant from the Utah Humanities Council and State Division of History.

Rachel asked if there was anything particular to ask each of these citizens. For Marie Olsen, Alma Leonhardt, Vada Rinderknecht, and Ivaloo Pierre, the list of questions prepared by B. Nelson could be used. Glade Davis could comment about the Grand Jury indictment that happened during his term. Gary Millburn, Glade Davis and Carl Spear may talk about City government issues in general. Nate Done could give insight about the installation of the City sewer system. Ivan Palmblad could report his perspective of living in an LDS family oriented community. Ivan Christensen was water master for many years and could give insight there. Alma Leonhardt could comment about the cemetery, since he helped his father in his duties as sexton.

It was suggested that alternates be chosen in case some of these do not work out. The Commission decided that Jack Thompson and Erwin Frederick would be good alternates. R. Gianni said she will send a copy of the questions to each individual ahead of time so they could have time to think about their response. R. Gianni will be in San Pete County this summer working on another oral history project, but will come back to Logan to do the interviews. A. Leonhardt asked if anyone knew where the time capsule was that had been placed in the pioneer monument. No one knew, but K. Seethaler thought it would have been given to the

bishop at the time the monument was demolished. A. Leonhardt has a box of tithing records from 1865 that he found at the church when he was serving in the bishopric. The LDS Church would like to have the oldest records, but others can be kept to put in a museum. A. Leonhardt will go through the record books and see if he can find out who was bishop during the time the monument was demolished.

B. Nelson will send R. Gianni addresses and phone numbers of those to be interviewed. B. Nelson will contact those suggested and see if they are willing to be interviewed. R. Gianni will plan to attend the Aug. 29 meeting to give a final report, as well as give email updates.

Item 2. Historic Preservation Grant Update.

B. Nelson informed the Commission that the application for a grant from the State Historic Preservation Office was approved for \$3000. This money will be used to perform 10 intensive level surveys on structures in the City, and then prepare a historic district nomination. A request for proposal was sent out to 6 consultants. One proposal was received from Korral Broschinsky. She also did the reconnaissance survey, and is very familiar with the City. Her proposal was within the parameters set by the grant, and she has been awarded the bid. She will be invited to attend the meeting on May 30th.

The Commission discussed again the structures that could be considered for the intensive level survey. K. Baker suggested the log house behind Linda Goetze's home at 157 South 100 East, the home of Joycelyn Bitters at 400 South and Main, and the house owned by K. Baker at 350 South Main. Others suggested were Seth Alder's barn and the Gessel home at 98 North Main. Creating a historic district will encourage the community to be more history-minded. However, this will not put any stipulations or regulations on the area. Only ordinances passed by the City Council would place restrictions on the homes in this area.

ITEM 3. Sesquicentennial Update

There was a discussion with the two City Council members present about what this Commission would like to do in regard to the sesquicentennial celebration for the City in 2009. The Commission discussed creating a committee to do an update on the *Providence and Her People* history book. K. Baker said the Council assigned her to be chairman of a "heritage preservation" committee. She helped her husband, Doran, with the last edition of the book. They chose a general chairman, Pat & Clyde Braegger, to oversee the project. It was divided into 5 sections with each committee member assigned to do a section. P. Braegger did a lot of calling, and their home was used as a gathering place for people to bring pictures, genealogy and other information. K. Baker has been thinking about Sharrell Eames as a general chairman for the project. Jay Hicken was also suggested. It was noted that Adrian Gale was a City Council member during the last printing, and would add insight for the committee.

Technology today is much more advanced, so we could scan the pictures and give them back immediately. We need a gathering place; would the City Office work as a collecting place? B. Nelson will find out if Watkins Printing has the originals of the book, and if they could be put on a CD for the next edition. The committee will need to check for corrections on family information and other articles. Another suggestion was using Ross Peterson –a historian formerly from Cache Valley; Ken Godfrey – who is currently writing a book on Cache Valley; and Carma Wadley – a native of Providence who writes for the Deseret News.

Motion to adjourn: Kaye Lyn Harris Second by Alma Leonhardt