

1 Providence Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
2 February 15, 2011
3 6:00 p.m.

4
5 THOSE PRESENT: Karl Seethaler, Alma Leonhardt, Hoyt Kelley, Jackie Robinette,
6 Kaye Lyn Harris, Carol Nyman
7 OTHERS: Brian Olsen, Dale Astle

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9 Minutes taken by Brenda Nelson

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11 MOTION to approve minutes of January 18, 2011 by K Harris. Second by J. Robinette.
12 All in favor.

13
14 Brian Olsen asked to speak about the ordinances for the Historic District. Everyone
15 agreed to change the order of the agenda.

16
17 **Item 2. Discussion on ordinances for the Historic District**

18 H. Kelley reported that he and A. Leonhardt attended the Planning Commission meeting
19 last week. They presented the draft of the ordinances for the Historic District for
20 consideration. The Commission accepted the recommendation, and now it will be sent to
21 Staff to review. It will then come back to Planning Commission. It is uncertain how
22 long this will take, but it is in their hands now.

23 The Planning Commission mentioned that a committee would be set up to review
24 requests for building construction and alteration within the core area of the District. We
25 have recommended what we feel the core area should be, but the Planning Commission
26 may change that. D. Astle suggested giving the Planning Commission a map of the
27 proposed area. H. Kelley said a map was attached to the document. The core area
28 suggested is from 100 East to 100 West and from 200 North to 200 South, on both sides
29 of the street. At least one member from the Historic Preservation Commission will be
30 part of the review committee, as well as a person who approves building permits.

31 A. Leonhardt stated that the Planning Commission was favorable to the document so he
32 didn't expect many changes.

33 The next step will be up to the Planning Commission. There will also be public hearings
34 before this is passed. A. Leonhardt complimented H. Kelley on his presentation to the
35 Planning Commission.

36 Brian Olsen explained that he was at the Planning Commission meeting when this
37 document was presented. He has concerns about curb and gutter requirements in the core
38 area of the District. Current ordinances require that any new construction of homes
39 within any part of the city requires sidewalk, curb and gutter along the frontage of the
40 property. B. Olsen agrees with adding sidewalk, but not curb and gutter. He reported
41 that there are many places where pieces of curb have been installed and are not
42 continuous. The City has no money to finish the curb and gutter the entire length of the
43 block, and they cannot force current owners to pay for installation in front of their homes.
44 So sections sit unconnected waiting to be completed. He also stated the cost of curb and
45 gutter is expensive. H. Kelley agreed that because of the expense, the City relies on
46 charging developers the cost of the sidewalk, curb and gutter. D. Astle felt that this was

1 something Planning Commission should look at. J. Robinette asked if a Special
2 Improvement District could be created to pay for these improvements. D. Astle felt like
3 this was not a priority, and right now there is only a small budget to replace and add curb
4 and gutter. He stated current ordinances require it to be put in. K. Seethaler asked if we
5 should pursue this. A. Leonhardt felt it is in the hands of the Planning Commission.

6
7 **Item 1. Discussion on possibility of a museum**

8 J. Robinette reported that she spoke to David Bell at USU Landscape Architecture Dept.
9 He will assign a student to help draw up our plans for the museum site. She needs the
10 dimensions of each of the buildings including the ones A. Leonhardt wants to bring in –
11 the freight office and the old post office. A. Leonhardt will email J. Robinette the
12 dimensions. J. Robinette will speak to Keith Watkins about what printing equipment he
13 has for display and how much room is needed.

14 She stated that the old Tithing Office building is vacant again.

15 C. Nyman asked if we plan to start with the Tithing Office building and add on. J.
16 Robinette felt we needed an additional building for the printing items. We need to plan
17 out the site to see if everything fits. As soon as she has the name of the individual from
18 USU, she will plan a meeting. K. Seethaler noted that we will not have this proposal
19 ready in time for the RAPZ tax application this year.

20
21 **Item 3. Discussion on possibility of archive of family histories.**

22 C. Nyman asked if anyone had looked at the website she had suggested last month to help
23 archive family histories. Those who had visited the website felt it was a good thing. It
24 could be used as a link from the current website. B. Nelson asked if anyone had looked at
25 what Sherri Ward had been doing with the Historic Preservation website. C. Nyman has
26 the information on how to purchase the program and how to link to it. D. Astle asked
27 how much room is available on the Historic Preservation website. He felt that this is a
28 way to make a lot of family histories available to people without using all the space on
29 the website. B. Nelson suggested talking to Sherri Ward, City employee who keeps up
30 the website, or Casey Bell of Westhost, who set up the website. C. Nyman will speak
31 with Sherri Ward.

32 B. Nelson mentioned that she learned that a person had brought in a book called
33 *Missionary Memoirs*, which is an autobiography of her grandfather who grew up in
34 Providence. She had many copies and wanted to give one to the City. The author is Fred
35 Yost, a great-uncle of B. Nelsons. She stated that she is familiar with this book and there
36 are many interesting references in the book to early life in Providence, as her great
37 grandparents came here in 1896. It would be nice to have a library in the museum for
38 this type of book. The website could have anecdotes from a family history book, but not
39 the entire book.

40 D. Astle suggested that C. Nyman check to make sure the program she is looking at does
41 not have any annual fees to maintain it. Before the next meeting C. Nyman will meet
42 with Sherri Ward and get more information.

1 **Item 4. Discussion on creating educational materials and archiving**

2 J. Hicken was not at the meeting. Last month he presented several items that Murray
3 City had done to promote their Historical District. They had created a dvd on how the
4 city had transformed from a rural community to a large city. They have booklets which
5 highlight every historic home and give information about it. They put on a workshop for
6 historic home owners. J.Hicken had asked if this group would like to do something like
7 that. Last month we discussed creating a dvd on the limestone quarry that was such an
8 integral part of this community's history.

9 C. Nyman went with J. Hicken to talk to Larry Jardine of LeGrand Johnsons, the
10 company which quarried out the limestone. She reported that Johnsons has an outline
11 showing what happened with their company from its beginning to now. She felt that we
12 could put together a very interesting dvd. D. Astle suggested that perhaps Johnsons
13 would be willing to fund such a venture. K. Harris wondered if such a dvd would be
14 interesting. C. Nyman said there are many, many stories of things that happened there
15 that would make it very interesting. A. Leonhardt wondered if we would have a
16 committee work on this, or do it as one group. We wondered if anyone was still alive
17 that worked on the quarry. K. Harris said her father, Ivan Christensen, worked there. C.
18 Nyman suggested Dennis Jensen. J. Robinette suggested we check with Johnsons and
19 see if they have a videographer. C. Nyman suggested *Frasierconsulting.com* as a source
20 that makes dvds. D. Astle suggested Laura Wolford as a resource. John Lisonbee also
21 has a studio set up in his home locally. Once we know what we need, we can solicit
22 people to help. K. Seethaler suggested that the State Division of History may have
23 suggestions to help with professionalism. B. Nelson explained that this may fall under
24 the educational materials that are funded by CLG grants. We need pictures of the quarry.
25 C. Nyman said Johnson's already has a video made of the quarry that they will let us use.
26 The next step is to have J. Hicken get in touch with Johnsons to see if they will help fund
27 the project, then get people to help. C. Nyman will bring the outline that Johnsons has
28 created.

29 K. Seethaler reported that he received information on a workshop available to members
30 of the Commission on stone masonry in historic buildings. Will email it to everyone.

31
32 **Item 5. Discussion on compiling articles written by Ken Braegger**

33 C. Nyman went to visit Ken Braegger, and he gave her a cd with many of his articles on
34 it. He has written over 400. She will talk to Sherri Ward about getting some of these on
35 the website. K. Harris said we could rotate them once a month so a new one is always
36 present. She wondered why the home page of the website does not have rotating
37 pictures. She felt that if people look at the website and there is never anything new, they
38 will quit looking at it. K. Braegger has lots of pictures that we could use.
39 K. Seethaler asked about having a town historian. He is a member of the Cache Valley
40 Historical Society. They have asked who they can contact about upcoming events.
41 Currently, they call K. Seethaler. K. Harris wondered if this falls under the City Council.
42 D. Astle felt it could be under the Historic Preservation Commission- a person chosen to
43 work with the Commission and keep track of what is going on. K. Seethaler said some
44 states have a very sophisticated job with specific guidelines to follow. He took
45 information from the New York website and revised it for Providence. He gave this list to
46 C. Nyman. K. Seethaler felt that we are accumulating a lot of items that need to be

1 organized, and a historian could do this. K. Seethaler felt we need a person that people
2 can contact to find out what is going on in Providence. A. Leonhardt felt like City events
3 are well publicized. If it is a historical event, we could contact the person from Cache
4 County Historical Society and let them know. D. Astle reminded the Commission that if
5 you have a historian to assemble records and things, you would need an office and file
6 cabinets. However, this could be a room in the museum.
7 K. Seethaler asked C. Nyman to think about this idea.

8
9 J. Robinette added a note about the sauerkraut dinner. She wondered if the City could get
10 a few people who know how to cook sauerkraut properly to help supervise the catering
11 group. This would add greatly to the success of the dinner. D. Astle will bring this up
12 with City Council.

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14 K. Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by A. Leonhardt. All in favor.
15 Next meeting will be on March 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

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19 Karl Seethaler, Chairman

Brenda Nelson, Secretary