

PROVIDENCE CITY
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Agenda
July 27, 2006

The Providence City Historic Preservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Thursday, July 27, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. at the Providence City Council Chambers, 15 South Main, Providence, Utah. The items listed below will be discussed and anyone interested is invited to attend.

ITEM 1. Oral history project update

ITEM 2. Discussion on the Providence Sesquicentennial

ITEM 3. Report on meetings held concerning innerblock development

If you have a disability and/or need special assistance while attending the Providence City Historic Preservation Commission meeting, please call 435-752-9441 before 5:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Providence Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
July 27, 2006
6:00 p.m.
Providence City Office

ATTENDING: Commission Members: Karl Seethaler, Marie Olsen, Hoyt Kelley,
Adrian Gale, Alma Leonhardt, Kaye Lyn Harris, Jay Hicken
Others: Lisa Duskin-Goede, Gary Stauffer

Notes taken by Brenda Nelson

Motion to approve minutes of May 30, 2006 by A. Leonhardt. Second by K. Harris. All in favor.

Item 1. Oral History Project Update

L. Duskin-Goede handed out copies of transcripts of the interviews completed by Rachel Gianni. She is checking the transcripts for spelling or grammatical errors. She has assigned a code, i.e., TAPE NUMBER PCOH (Providence City Oral History), to archive each document. Each will be identified as to which type of equipment was used for the interview. For example, ARG stands for Audio Rachel Gianni. This is the standard system used by Special Collections. She will add a glossary to identify the acronyms.

R. Gianni transcribed the interview with Hoyt Kelley listing the questions asked and then the response given. For every other interview, she used a topical approach. She has summarized the response, and listed it under a topic heading. L. Duskin-Goede asked the members if this was acceptable or if they would prefer having the questions listed. L. Duskin-Goede prefers the questions listed and the responses following, but to change all the completed interviews back to this format would be a great deal of work. L. Duskin-Goede spoke with Elaine Thatcher, a researcher in Logan, and Thatcher explained that it can be done either way, as long as you keep the tape log. The only problem is that the interviewer takes the raw material and draws her own conclusions and interpretation of the text.

H. Kelley likes having the questions listed in the text. He also mentioned there are some corrections needed with spelling of names. L. Duskin-Goede said she will go over the documents with R. Gianni and make the corrections. She wondered if the Commission planned to use quotes from the interviews in the new edition of the history book. These would have to be taken off the tape.

It was recommended that R. Gianni use the question/answer format for the next 8 interviews, but leave these as they are. K. Harris stated that the reader could tell what the questions probably were by the responses given. L. Duskin-Goede suggested that we give the transcripts back to those interviewed and let them edit for correctness and spelling of names. They could report if any area had been missed that should have been covered.

L. Duskin-Goede presented two ways the final product could be archived. One way is to use a large binder to hold transcriptions, photo logs, handouts collected, cd's and tapes.

The other option would be to bind the material in a book. The latter is more permanent, but also more expensive. There are other interviews done by different people, such as those by Marie Olsen and Craig Larocco that could be added. L. Duskin-Goede has an interview of Vada Rinderknecht, who is scheduled to be interviewed in the next group, as part of another project she is working on. The Commission decided V. Rinderknecht should still be interviewed since the interview with L. Duskin-Goede was mostly concerning barns.

K. Harris felt we don't need to add the questions to the text. She did feel that the biographical information should be separated from other subjects covered in the interview. The Commission felt that R. Gianni should move ahead and start the next phase because those interviews need to be completed by October 2006. The transcripts will be given to the people interviewed to proofread and should be returned to the City Office by mid-August. L. Duskin-Goede will plan to put the material in a large binder. Photographs will be added as a thumbnail sketch as well as a larger photo of each person interviewed.

Item 2. Providence City Sesquicentennial discussion

K. Seethaler has put together a summary of what he feels is the consensus of the group about the City sesquicentennial celebration. The main concern right now is the history book update. K. Seethaler suggested we not redo the book but add three additional sections – one for things omitted from the first book, another for the oral history interviews, and lastly, what has happened to the City since 1974 and what the Historic Preservation Commission is doing.

M. Olsen met with Ken Braegger and they suggest that we have sections on growth, parks, water, sewer, irrigation, politics, religion, cemetery, etc. covering the last 30 years, and what to expect in the future. M. Olsen suggested we could ask for articles that could be added to the book. M. Olsen has written a few articles and K. Braegger has several. J. Hicken spoke with Max Petersen, and Petersen said when doing biographies, it is easy to have people get their feelings hurt. It is hard to please everyone when writing a history book.

H. Kelley stated that we don't want to read about modern history. It is more interesting to read about the past. He suggested that we reprint the 1974 edition again. The problem is finding someone to be in charge. The City Council needs to approve the person to be in charge. It was suggested that we send out a survey asking how the public feels about doing a history book, and if they are willing to help with it.

This committee is not the book committee. We will recommend to City Council that they do a book summarizing what has happened from 1974 to 2008 using the topics M. Olsen suggested, and add edited oral interviews at the end along with activities of the Historic Preservation Commission. Also, the Commission recommends that the 1974 edition of the book be scanned and made available in the future. J. Hicken, K. Seethaler and K. Harris will draft a resolution to present to City Council at their next meeting, Aug. 8,

stating this. H. Kelley said the City may need to hire a person to do the book. There is money in the Veterans fund that could be used for this purpose.

Item 3. Report on meetings held concerning innerblock development.

There seems to be confusion between the Heritage Preservation Committee and the Historic Preservation Commission. The City Council has assigned members to be over various committees. Kathy Baker was assigned to be over a Heritage Preservation Committee. She held a meeting asking for input about innerblock development in the downtown area which may be defined as the historic district. Members of the Historic Preservation Commission attended this meeting, as well as another joint workshop between the City Council and Planning Commission, where this topic was discussed.

H. Kelley said that this Commission should not be involved in planning and making ordinances. That is the job of the Planning Commission and City Council. He felt the Council was looking for an endorsement from the Commission one way or another on this issue. He felt the Commission should continue with its current focus.

Motion by A. Leonhardt that we inform the City Council about the Commissions feelings on this matter. Second by H. Kelley. All in favor. A. Leonhardt will contact Mayor Simmons and speak to him about it.

The next meeting will be by August 29, 2006.

Motion to adjourn – K. Harris.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Karl Seethaler, Chairman

Brenda Nelson, Secretary

The Providence Sesquicentennial
1859 – 2009

The Providence Historic Preservation Commission has set the stage for the celebration of this event:

Reconnaissance Level Survey of Providence
Intensive Level Survey of Providence
Oral Histories
In the process of creating a Providence Historic District

The following items have been suggested as ways to recognize and celebrate the sesquicentennial:

Updating the book "Providence and Her People"
Dedicating a new Monument with a time capsule along the line of the Monument that used to be in front of the Old Rock Church
Other celebrations yet to be determined

I would like to present my opinion on the book. Very few people have a copy of the first edition of "Providence and Her People" which was printed in the late 1940s. The second edition was an excellent piece of work which I think should be left as is; we should not try to revise it. The proposed 2009 edition could be prepared most expeditiously if it didn't try to rewrite the previous books. Rather it might have a section dedicated to omissions that were not covered in past editions. There could be a section on the Historic Preservation Commission, its surveys, oral histories and other accomplishments printed for the benefit of its readers. A third section could concentrate on the direction the town has taken since the most recent publication of the book. The first two editions could be reproduced to form a trilogy for collectors of the history of Providence.

I would also like to suggest that a committee be formed to deal with the Monument. Its design could be patterned after the previous Monument. It could commemorate the first 150 years of the community. It could be located on the grounds of Old Rock Church as was the first Monument. It might be placed on the corner of the property where the sidewalks meet at Main and Center. Preparations should be made for the organization of the time capsule.

Perhaps a single committee could be formed to deal with all aspects of the celebration of the sesquicentennial with subcommittees dedicated to the various aspects. The Historic Preservation Commission might be able to take on this assignment, but it would need a mandate from the Mayor and City Council. There is already some coordination on this, but the plan of action is still nebulous. I would suggest that this all be ironed out this year in order to give us two full years of preparation of a first class celebration.

Providence Historic Preservation Commission

May 30, 2006

6:00 p.m.

ATTENDING: Karl Seethaler, Jay Hicken, Kaye Lyn Harris, Alma Leonhardt, Marie Olsen, Hoyt Kelley. Excused: Adrian Gale

Visitors: Korral Broschinsky, Kathy Baker, Skarlet Bankhead, Laura Fisher, Trent Rasmussen

Motion to approve minutes of April 26, 2006 by J. Hicken. Second by K. Harris. All in favor.

Item 1. Korral Broschinsky will discuss creation of a historic district and the grant received from the State Historic Preservation Office.

K. Broschinsky thanked the Commission for the opportunity to work on this project. The work she did on the reconnaissance survey was preliminary work for this project. She showed the Commission the map she created with the reconnaissance survey outlining the potential district.

K. Broschinsky explained that the National Register is looking for an area with a high concentration of historic buildings. She discussed contributing buildings vs non-contributing. Non-contributing buildings would be those less than 50 years old or those that have been altered significantly. They are looking for a high ratio (75%) of contributing buildings in the area. The district has definable boundaries. As you move outside the district you can tell a difference; the old time grid becomes apparent.

K. Broschinsky outlined the steps she will follow to complete this project.

1. In the reconnaissance survey, she did a selective survey. This meant that not every home within the area was part of the survey. She will need to go back through the area and look at the homes that were missed on the first survey.
2. These will be added to the data base. This will help build the ratio as you define how many of each of the types of architectural styles (Victorian, bungalow, etc.) are present in the area.
3. K. Broschinsky will generate another map showing all the homes in the district boundaries. A. Leonhardt asked if a home located outside of the boundaries could be included. She said it would have to be done as a single nomination for the National Historic District, not part of the district. Once the district is approved, everything within the boundaries is considered to be on the Register.
4. K. Broschinsky will prepare similar reports as the ones done for the reconnaissance survey. There will be more detail and more examples of each time period. That is where the intensive level surveys come in. SHPO would like to see representative samples of the district. She will do in-depth research on who owned the buildings and provide other anecdotal information – not just statistical.

She will choose 10 buildings – all residences. She will try to choose one from each decade, and from different parts of the district. She will pick from the “A” listings in the report, which are contributing and significant structures. K. Broschinsky was open to suggestions from the Commission of any they would like to add to the list, especially if

we know the owners would be cooperative. For Providence, a nice group of outbuildings that are still intact would be good as they are an important part of our history. Give addresses to B. Nelson and she will email them to me.

5. Once the intensive level surveys are finished, she will write the historic district nomination on the application form. She will include the new, more detailed map. J. Hicken asked how we could use the map – if the historic district is accepted. Could we use it to create a walking tour, or duplicate it as a hand out? K. Broschinsky will give us an electronic copy of the map that we can use however we want.

H. Kelley would like to see a copy of the reconnaissance survey. B. Nelson will make two more copies that will be available to check out. He asked what exactly constitutes a historic district. K. Broschinsky related that the original town grid is used as a starting point. The land in the district must be contiguous, and is usually preferred to be in a block form rather than weaving in and out excluding homes that do not qualify. K. Broschinsky stated that she would help outline the area and members of SHPO would look at it as well.

K. Broschinsky was asked to provide a timeline for the project. She said that the grant cycle runs from July to July, so we are already ahead of schedule. She has other projects she has committed to finish, so she can begin Providence City's project after July 1. She will try to have the intensive level surveys completed by the end of the summer. She would like to be finished with the project by the end of the calendar year.

After she has completed the work, it will be turned in to the State Historic Preservation board for review. Once it has been approved, it is sent to the national level. The designation could be awarded by Spring of 2007. H. Kelley asked if there has ever been one that was not approved. K. Broschinsky did not think so, but nominations for individual homes are sometimes rejected. The State board usually catches all the problems at that level.

The State board meets only every other month. Commission members asked if other cities have designated historic districts. K. Broschinsky said Logan City is the only one she knew of in this area. To find out, you can check the National Park Service website. K. Seethaler asked if once the designation is made, since it is an honorific title, what should be done next. K. Broschinsky said what is done after that is promotional. Some towns have put signs at each corner of the district informing people that they are entering the historic district. In Sandy City, they have plaques that can be placed on contributing building sites that the City participates in the financing of. Other than that, ordinances such as design review or other zoning restrictions could be created to apply to this district.

S. Bankhead asked how you can keep the area from becoming diluted. K. Broschinsky said there is no way unless your zoning ordinances control them. S. Bankhead asked if we could lose the historic designation if the area changes. K. Broschinsky said that there is no one policing the area. It could happen only if someone reported the changes, and she doubted that would happen.

K. Harris stated that the City Council has to be involved in this to make it work.

K. Broschinsky mentioned that when she came last year she talked about the tax credit program. Gov. Huntsman flat tax proposal may cause that to go away. The program is intact until the end of this year. The building wouldn't have to be listed this year to get a

tax credit; they have up to three years. SHPO feels optimistic that the tax credit program may stay in place in some form. The federal tax credit is still available. The tax credit can be used to reverse the alteration that may have taken place, remove siding or whatever it takes to bring it back to its original state. Tax credits can be used on the inside as well as the outside of the building.

Tax credit forms are available on the State Historic Preservation website.

K. Broschinsky asked the Commission if they had any significant contractors that built more than one home in the downtown area. K. Seethaler mentioned James Henry Brown, who built the Old Rock Church, as well as helping on the temple and tabernacle in Logan. He is buried in the Providence City Cemetery.

K. Broschinsky asked about Alma Mathews. He also built many homes in the area.

K. Baker suggested that her husband, Doran Baker, has the most extensive history on Edgewood Hall. It may be a good idea to interview him. K. Baker had a copy of a booklet written by Doran Baker called "A Providential Place". There is a copy at the City Office that can be used to make duplicates. K. Baker provided a copy for K.

Broschinsky.

Item 2. Update on oral history project.

B. Nelson said that she received an email from Rachel Gianni telling us that she was unable to complete the two scheduled interviews with Ivan Christensen and Opal Chugg due to problems with her tape recorder. She plans to reschedule in two weeks. B. Nelson has contacted all the former mayors, Ivaloo Pierre and Vada Rinderknecht, and they are all willing to be interviewed. A. Leonhardt contacted Ivan Palmblad, but he does not want to be interviewed. We still need one more name.

Norman Leonhardt was suggested. H. Kelley suggested Pat Hugie, who grew up in Edgewood Hall, and Maurine Pickett Jones, who is the daughter of Ross Pickett. Renee Bringhurst Winward was suggested because she grew up in Edgewood Hall. B. Nelson was asked to contact Pat Hugie and Maurine Jones to see if they would do an interview. Renee Winward is the alternative. B. Nelson will also email Rachel Gianni and Lisa Duskin-Goede and ask them to be more diligent in getting the interviews done. This project needs to be completed by October 2006.

Item 3. City Council report on sesquicentennial.

K. Baker is concerned about the publication of an updated version of *Providence and Her People*. No one is willing to take the lead and be in charge of a committee to redo it. Lots of people are willing to help, but no one wants to be in charge. The Commission members feel the same way. K. Baker suggested that we copy the current book, as it is, and make it available to sell. She also wants to compile the oral histories into a volume and copy them for public distribution.

J. Hicken said the Commission must decide what we want for the history book. Do we want to do a different book, the same book, the volume of histories compiled and called a history book, or do a separate volume of just 1974-present. Is there money to pay someone to be in charge of the project?

B. Nelson spoke with Dennis Watkins of Watkins Printing, who printed the first volume. He does not have originals in a hard copy format. The pages and pictures have been

photographed and he has negatives and film. S. Bankhead liked the idea of reproducing the previous edition and making a Volume 2 of the last 30 years.

Motion by J. Hicken that we wait until the next meeting to decide what we want to include in a historic book. **Second** by H. Kelley. All in favor.

K. Seethaler asked if this decision is within the scope of this Commission. The Commission can make recommendations to the Council. He asked if K. Baker and T. Rasmussen are getting a committee together to work on the book. K. Baker stated that this Commission is the committee. S. Bankhead said that if the Council chooses to add this to the responsibilities of the Commission, then they could work on it, but it is really not in the realm of their duties.

Other resources were discussed such as Ross Peterson. Wilma Hall and Ruth Maughan have been working on Wellsville's history.

Commission discussed scanning in the book so it can be published as there is a demand. Could the scanner at the City Office be used or does it need to be done by a printing company such as Watkins? Commission will meet on July 27 in a special meeting to discuss the details about the history book.

K. Baker told the group about a meeting she is planning for June 14 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss heritage protection. She is concerned about innerblock development, private lanes, flag lots, design review within the historic district. H. Kelley felt that the City cannot tell people what to do with their property. K. Baker is asking for citizen input to get ideas to present to the Council. She asked K. Broschinsky about design review – should it be in place as an ordinance first, or following the creation of the district. K. Broschinsky said that there is a big misconception about design review. Creating a historic district does not automatically create the design review. The City Council must enact ordinances to cause this to happen. K. Harris said K. Baker should leave zoning to the Planning Commission and focus on the heritage aspect.

S. Bankhead told the Commission that a few years ago a lot downsize zone was created. Now people are wanting to preserve the large lots. K. Baker wants public input on this issue. Do we want apartments in the middle of lots? What about private lanes? The Commission was invited to attend the meeting and give input.

K. Seethaler asked K. Baker if she is involved in planning the sesquicentennial. S. Bankhead said the Council has been divided into committees with one Council person as chair and a second member as a member of the committee. K. Baker is chair of the heritage preservation committee and T. Rasmussen is a member. Who actually makes things happen? We have talked about ideas for the sesquicentennial such as a monument, time capsule, celebrations, etc. Who will pull all this together? The City Council will have to make the final decision. We will discuss this at the next meeting on July 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by K. Harris. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Karl Seethaler, Chairman

Brenda Nelson, Secretary



Providence City

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TO: Historic Preservation Members

FROM: Brenda Nelson

SUBJECT: Historic Preservation Meeting

DATE: July 21, 2006

This meeting, to be held on July 27, has been added to our regularly scheduled meetings to discuss a few items. The first item will be an update on the oral history project by Lisa Duskin-Goede.

Secondly, we would like to continue our discussion on the sesquicentennial celebration – particularly the ideas regarding another edition of the *Providence and Her People* book. Enclosed is a draft written by Karl Seethaler which is a summary of what he feels was the consensus of the past discussion. If any of you have other comments, be prepared to add these to the discussion.

The last item will be to discuss a meeting of the Providence Heritage Preservation held on June 14, and a meeting of the Planning Commission held on July 18, where the idea of innerblock development in the historic district area was discussed.

See you on Thursday