

1 Providence Historic Preservation Commission  
2 October 21, 2008  
3 6:00 p.m.

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5 THOSE PRESENT: Karl Seethaler, Alma Leonhardt, Kaye Lyn Harris, Hoyt Kelley,  
6 Jay Hicken, Marie Olsen, Adrian Gale

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8 Minutes taken by Brenda Nelson  
9 Meeting called to order by K. Seethaler

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11 MOTION by K.Harris to approve minutes of July 22, 2008, August 19, 2008, September  
12 16, 2008. Second by A. Leonhardt. All in favor

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14 **Item 1. Sesquicentennial update.**

15 K. Seethaler mentioned that Dave Low is the council member organizing the events to  
16 celebrate the City sesquicentennial. He has asked for assistance from the citizens.  
17 Commissioners wondered why Dale Astle could not be in charge since the Mayor had  
18 said he wanted someone other than a council member in charge. J. Hicken felt we need  
19 to find out for sure if D. Low is actually in charge of all events or if he is just the council  
20 member assigned to the project.

21 J. Hicken stated that the Commission should plan what they would like to do for the  
22 sesquicentennial and let the person in charge know. K. Seethaler reiterated that the  
23 Commission's participation would include the updated history book, the pioneer  
24 monument, the oral histories, etc. The main event will be held the first week of June. K.  
25 Seethaler felt we should have some event on April 20, the actual day attributed to the  
26 founding of the City. H. Kelley wondered how we can tie our activities in.

27 J. Hicken noted that it really doesn't matter who is in charge of the celebration. This  
28 Commission has specific things they want to do and can decide how they are to be done.  
29 He explained that there is a monument committee, but what about a book committee?  
30 How do we want to present the book to the public? A. Leonhardt stated that it would be  
31 nice to have the book completed by the June celebration. B. Nelson explained that Bob  
32 Parson has until June to complete the book according to his contract. Then there has to  
33 be time for printing. J. Hicken asked if we would like to have a book signing by the  
34 author. A. Gale wondered if it was that important to have a book signing. The author is  
35 not a member of the community and doesn't know many people here. Others felt it  
36 would be a good thing to have the author there when the book is presented. A. Leonhardt  
37 suggested we have a booth at the celebration where the book could be sold.

38 J. Hicken told of a celebration his father-in-law was involved with where they did a re-  
39 enactment of a notable event in the town's history. He wondered if that would be  
40 possible for Providence. In the past, they have had plays and skits associated with city  
41 celebrations. A. Gale felt a re-enactment would be a great idea. A. Leonhardt suggested  
42 we talk to Bob Parson and see if he can give us a date when the book will be completed.  
43 H. Kelley said they hope to have the monument dedication by June as well. J. Hicken  
44 suggested we put this on the agenda again next month and also see if there is a story or  
45 two that could be made into a skit for the celebration.

1 A. Leonardt reported that he spoke with a person at USU about adding a title to the dvd  
2 about the 1947 celebration. He said that there will be a cover that tells about the dvd. It  
3 will state that the dvd was originally filmed by Seth Alder. USU charges 66.00/hour, and  
4 it shouldn't take more than an hour. A. Leonhardt volunteered to pay for that. Then he  
5 plans to look for someone to make copies of the dvd to be sold with the book. These dvds  
6 could be placed in a pocket in the back of the book, or sold separately, or both.  
7 K. Harris asked if the Commission was writing a preface to the book . Bob Parson has  
8 written an introduction, but a preface is different than an introduction. A preface would  
9 explain why the Commission felt a need to make this latest edition, and it would list the  
10 members of the Commission. J. Hicken said the members were named in the  
11 introduction to the book. Perhaps they could be taken from that section and added to the  
12 preface. A. Gale asked if we have decided on a printer. Does this need to go out for bid?  
13 These are all things that will have to be worked out.

14  
15 **Item 2. Report on the progress of the pioneer monument**

16 K. Seethaler asked A. Leonhardt to report on this. A. Leonhardt presented an artists  
17 rendition of the monument. There will be a display table at the Sauerkraut Festival  
18 Saturday night with information on the monument and fundraising efforts. He is making  
19 flyers to hand out that night. The City Council voted to allow the monument to be placed  
20 on the corner of Main St. and Center on the corner of the Old Rock Church property. The  
21 vote was 3-2, but it passed. It will be ready for dedication the first week of June. A. Gale  
22 asked for clarification on how the monument would be placed. It will face out into the  
23 middle of the intersection.

24 There will be a time capsule in the monument. Everyone that donates to the monument  
25 will have their name written on a paper to be placed in the time capsule. B. Nelson asked  
26 if they are taking suggestions as to what they should put in the time capsule. A.  
27 Leonhardt said they are open to suggestions. K. Harris asked if they were letting students  
28 from the elementary school put something in the capsule. A. Leonhardt agreed that  
29 would be a fun idea.

30 K. Seethaler mentioned that the committee is looking for a prominent person to dedicate  
31 the monument. Perhaps a congressman, governor, etc. K. Harris suggested former  
32 governor Michael Leavitt, who has ties with Cache Valley. J. Hicken asked who a well-  
33 known former resident would be. Stan Checketts was suggested. The Monument  
34 Committee will have to decide, but this Commission can make suggestions. J. Hicken  
35 suggested choosing someone whose ancestor was an original settler of this town. M.  
36 Olsen asked about selecting the oldest citizen.

37  
38 **Item 3. Discussion of the sauerkraut festival**

39 B. Nelson said she has met with Terri Wennergren, the staff member in charge of the  
40 Sauerkraut Festival. They discussed the display put up by the Commission. We will  
41 need to bring our own tables and easels for displays. J. Hicken said he has two tables 6-7  
42 feet in length that he will bring. K. Seethaler will bring easels from the Old Rock  
43 Church. Commissioners discussed what to have at the display. A. Leonhardt suggested  
44 we show all the projects we have been working on, i.e., historic homes survey, walking  
45 tour brochures, historic district map, oral histories. B. Nelson presented some things she  
46 has been pulling together. She had a map of the 1871 townsite showing who was living

1 where at that time; a chart showing the original pioneer households and what they did for  
2 an occupation; a map of the town at the time of settlement showing town landmarks.  
3 These were enlarged and laminated. She also had pictures belonging to her mother that  
4 showed several different groups of Providence residents. These may be fun for people to  
5 see if they recognize. She also had a scrapbook belonging to her mother with newspaper  
6 clippings about past sauerkraut dinners, most about 30 years ago. She will add these to  
7 the display.

8 B. Nelson said she will bring badges for members who would be helping at the display.  
9 The dinner goes from 5-8 p.m., so if two people were there for an hour each, that would  
10 cover it. K. Seethaler and H. Kelley will be there from 5-6 p.m.; A. Leonhardt from 6-7  
11 p.m.; and A. Gale from 7-8 p.m. J. Hicken will check his schedule and then let B. Nelson  
12 know when he can come. M. Olsen is still unsure of her schedule, and K. Harris will be  
13 out of town. B. Nelson will be there early to get things set up. A. Leonhardt asked J.  
14 Hicken to bring the tables by 4 p.m.

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16 **Item 4. Update on the interactive website.**

17 B. Nelson reported that she registered the domain "providenceuthistory.com" for this  
18 website. She completed the contract and signed up for the hosting with Westhost.  
19 Everything is now ready to go. Jason Norris told B. Nelson that he has scheduled the  
20 project in to start the third week of November. He asked that if any Commission  
21 members had suggestions about sites they like or specific colors, or whatever, to please  
22 let him know. B. Nelson gave members his phone number and email address.

23  
24 **Item 6. Update on museum at Bartschi Blacksmith shop.**

25 J. Hicken reported that he spoke with Ken Braegger about talking to Floyd Tracy. Floyd  
26 Tracy has half ownership in the property. When K. Braegger spoke to F. Tracy, he  
27 learned that Brent Bartschi had already spoken to F. Tracy about the parcel. F. Tracy  
28 suggested the City wait till he was gone to move forward with this project. When he dies,  
29 all things in his name go back to the Bartschi family. B. Bartschi also suggested waiting.  
30 F. Tracy is in pretty good health, but he is 93.

31 J. Hicken wondered if this was a big enough issue that we should take to the City  
32 Council. A. Leonhardt felt this was not a good time since the economy was bad and  
33 cities are struggling to make ends meet. K. Seethaler felt we have enough on our plate to  
34 keep us busy and perhaps another year would be better. J. Hicken will keep in contact  
35 with B. Bartschi.

36  
37 **Item 7. Update on the historic district.**

38 No one had anything to report. K. Seethaler was to speak to Kathy Baker about this, but  
39 didn't get to it yet. He will do it before the next meeting.

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41 **Item 5. Discussion of pictures needed for the history book**

42 The remainder of the meeting was spent discussion the pictures needed for the upcoming  
43 book. J. Hicken read a note from Bob Parson stating that he felt it would be good to find  
44 at least one picture for each bold faced heading in the section. Obviously, there will be  
45 more available for some sections than others. That is at least a start. He also suggested a  
46 collage page for the business district showing different businesses. He has a lot of the

1 pictures needed for the first sections, but pictures for Sections 3 and 4 will have to be  
2 found, since they deal with current issues. The suggestion was made to take a picture of  
3 a certain site and have it next to an older picture of the same site.

4 Are we going to use color? Most new pictures will be in color but old ones will be black  
5 and white. A. Leonhardt said he gave Bob Parson a book with all the events during his  
6 tenure as mayor. This included pictures of park sites, well sites and reservoirs, and other  
7 events. A. Gale asked if we could use pictures from the last book. That would be  
8 helpful. J. Hicken and A. Leonhardt had gone through and noted where they felt pictures  
9 should go in the transcript of the book.

10 A. Gale said he likes lots of pictures. It adds interest and attracts your eye to the page. He  
11 wondered if we should divide up the transcript and have each person in charge of one  
12 area. It is too big a transcript to do it all. H. Kelley felt that if he was the author, he  
13 would like to decide what pictures would go with the transcript. A. Leonhardt said he  
14 could check with Bob Parson, but in the past Bob had stated that this would be our call as  
15 to which pictures were used.

16 K. Harris explained that there are 19 bold faced sections in the first section alone. J.  
17 Hicken suggested we not try to do this tonight, but have it as the main item on the next  
18 agenda. M. Olsen liked the idea of doing a "then and now" picture of different places.  
19 A. Leonhardt suggested having a picture of the old interurban train vs the Cache Valley  
20 Transit bus that is used now. It would be nice to have some color photos even if it adds to  
21 the cost.

22 A. Leonhardt encouraged each member to go through the transcript and make a list of the  
23 pictures to use for each bold faced heading. Try and be specific if you know of a  
24 particular picture to use.

25 There has been several requests to make more copies of the 1974 edition of the history.

26 B. Nelson asked Filbies Copy Center what they would charge to scan the book. They felt  
27 it would be around \$250 to scan it.

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29 MOTION by J. Hicken that we continue this item to the next meeting and it be the only  
30 item on the next agenda. Second by A. Leonhardt. All in favor.

31 Ivan Christensen was present and had some photos for the Sports/Athletics section of the  
32 book. He had pictures of local athletes that were honored as Hall of Fame, All-State, and  
33 All-American members. He is also hunting for photos of junior teams and All-Church  
34 teams. He felt they should get the recognition they deserve. Not every city can boast  
35 athletes of this caliber. Commissioners felt the pictures should be scanned so they  
36 wouldn't risk losing or damaging the originals. J. Hicken said if the information could be  
37 written on the back or attached some way, then we wouldn't have to worry about getting  
38 the write-up with the wrong picture.

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40 Next meeting will be Nov. 18, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

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42 H. Kelley added that Keith Watkins is unhappy with the City because there are two trees  
43 by the Veterans Monument that need to be replaced because they are sickly. There is  
44 money in the Veterans Acct to take care of it but the Public Works Director hasn't gotten  
45 around to it yet. There is nothing this group can do; it was just given as an point of  
46 information.

1 J. Hicken asked again how we can get the historic district off the ground. K. Seethaler  
2 felt we need to get a meeting going. A. Leonhardt said the City has to initiate this  
3 discussion. K. Seethaler will speak to Kathy Baker about it. J. Hicken wondered about  
4 the plaques for the homes on the walking tour. B. Nelson said she gave the information  
5 about ordering the plaques to Kathy Baker, but didn't know if she had ordered them yet.  
6 K.Harris said she has taken pictures of the new stake center being built in Providence.

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8 MOTION to adjourn the meeting by K. Harris. Second by A. Leonhardt. All in favor.

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10 Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Karl Seethaler, Chairman

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Brenda Nelson, Secretary