

**Minutes**  
**HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD**  
**City Commission Room, City Hall**  
**1101 Poyntz Avenue**  
**Monday, May 19, 2014**  
**4:00 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Patrick Schaub, Chair; Dixie West, Vice-Chair; Angie Danner; Dea Brokesh; Michael Krysko.

**Members Absent:** Michael Mecseri; Betty Mattingly.

**Others Present:** Kathy Dzewaltowski; Linda Glasgow; Ann Kosch; Lauren Ritterbush; Barbara Anderson.

**Staff Present:** Kevin Credit, Planner; Lance Evans, Senior Planner.

1. Consider the minutes for the March 24, 2014 Historic Resources Board meeting.

Brokesh moved that the minutes be approved. Danner seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5-0.

2. Archeological Resources in Manhattan

- Discussion with Associate Professor Lauren Ritterbush.

Lauren Ritterbush presented on archeological resources in Manhattan. She explained that archeological resources provide important information about our human past, often providing the only information about certain periods. She said that archeological resources are finite and fragile, and involve time-consuming excavations by professionals in which the context of the resources is very important – they must be protected from any kind of disturbance. She said that archeological resources are most often listed under Criterion D for the National Register of Historic Places.

Ritterbush went on to explain that in 2009 an HPF Grant was awarded to summarize and inventory known archeological resources in the Manhattan Urban Area, which is an extremely rich area for such resources. She said that about 98 sites were originally recorded in that survey, and since then about 30 more have been documented. She provided the Board with a list of all the known sites within the City limits and opened the discussion to questions.

Brokesh asked about the number of resources on KSU or City-owned property. Ritterbush said that there were very few – most of the sites are privately-owned. The Board discussed the prehistoric/historic proportion of resources and the percentage of funding generally spent on dating. West said that she felt the current Comprehensive Plan's discussion of archeology was lacking. Ritterbush said that the Comprehensive Plan goals currently only deal with two of the

four criteria relating to archeology and that the Plan should go further than only talking about National Register listing. She also said that the Natural Resources chapter would be a logical place to incorporate the discussion of protecting archeological sites, since they are often located (in Manhattan) near rivers.

Schaub asked what criteria were used to determine priority archeological sites, for example when advocating for CIP items. Ritterbush said that known sites with the greatest potential for being intact are the highest priority – none of the known sites in the Manhattan city limits would be on the high priority list because they have all been disturbed. However, the City has a greater chance of obtaining HPF grants, due to its CLG status – so there needs to be a way for the City to work outside its immediate territory.

### 3. Future Agenda Items

- Discussion of potential items to take action on at future HRB meetings.

West suggested including and discussing the Action Plan at every meeting. Brokesh said that she was interested in talking about the archeological resources goal at this meeting since Lauren Ritterbush had just presented. West suggested putting a link to archeological resources information on the HRB website. The Board discussed the difficulties of reaching out to private land owners and educating them about the value of archeology. Based on discussion with the board Ritterbush suggested constructing a series of signs along Linear Trail and Wildcat Creek informing citizens of the types of resources that are common in those areas, and maybe pointing out view towards other important historical areas such as Bluemont hill. The Board discussed possible funding resources for the trail project. Brokesh said she could see it as a valid CIP request. Schaub said that the Board's advocacy could be stronger if they partner with other organizations.

West said she wanted to go back to the City-owned property list and designate priorities for each; then that list could be used to educate City staff on the importance and methods of preserving these buildings. Schaub said that the Board could also work to identify potential grants for other historic projects, perhaps starting with one and setting up a model for the future beyond limited CIP funds.

### 4. Administrative Review Summary:

- 3624 Anderson Avenue: Solar panel installation. *Samuel D. Houston House.*

Credit presented the administrative review completed in the month of May.

### 5. Announcements and Updates.

- Update on Bluemont Youth Cabin.
- Update on City Auditorium - City Commission meeting/fundraising efforts.
- Update on Comprehensive Plan process, feedback.
- Update on Juliette Avenue transportation grant.
  
- Preservation Month Proclamation: May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Long's Park Dedication: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 3:30 - 4:30.

- Historic Summit: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 - 9:00, City Commission Room.

Credit updated the Board on the Bluemont Youth Cabin, saying that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would likely discuss an RFP in July for the Cabin to understand what the best use of the building is, and how that can be accomplished in a way that is respectful of the historic nature of the structure and in line with the current needs and interests of the City.

Credit updated the Board on the City Auditorium, saying that a detailed cost estimate of repairing the stage had been prepared, and would be discussed at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> City Commission meeting in a work session. West then described her experience attending the Comprehensive Plan Update Workshop on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Fire Station. She explained that the purpose of the meeting was to fine-tune the goals and objectives of nine general categories, and that in terms of historic preservation, she felt that the current goals were somewhat lacking, and focused only on historic people and events. She suggested investigating historic incentives and financial recognition again, strategies that are discussed in the plan but have never been seriously considered. She said that the Board should take a stance on bringing forward recommendations for the future goals and suggested adding a discussion of the Comprehensive Plan update to next month's agenda. Credit then presented on the remaining update items.

6. Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, June 23, 2014.
- Monday, July 28, 2014.

7. Adjourn.