

Historic Resources Board Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 10:00 AM
Community Service Center, 118 E. 7th, 3rd Floor Conference Room

1. Call to Order (10:00 AM) by Chair Bob Wren

Members present: Bob Wren, Terry LaValley, and Rose Nyman.

Members absent: Lynette Foulger (excused) and Tammy Mattson (excused).

Staff: Gayla Hess

Public: Anita Hamm

2. Previous Meeting Minutes

Rose noted corrections needed on pages 1 (change Walker to Williams) and 3 (fix interested to interest).

Rose Nyman moved to approve the January 4, 2024, minutes with corrections. Terry LaValley seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment: None.

Documents: [23-12-07 HRB MINUTES DRAFT.PDF](#)

3. Unfinished Business

3.1. Speaker Series (5.1.7)

Continued planning for speaker series events, including:

- February event and tasks, including:
 - Greeter (Bob)
 - Introduction (Terry)
 - Thank you note (Gayla)
 - Handout- Rib eye stew recipe from family and schedule
 - Distribute posters.
 - Cookies (Terry per schedule)
 - Coffee items
 - Rose: napkins, plates, sugar & sweetener
 - Lynette: cups
 - Rose & Bob offered to bring a tablecloth, if needed
- March ad

Rose suggested changing the question “Which union had the largest membership”. Bob was ok with question as is but was ok with changing if others felt strongly. Anita Hamm spoke of how mainstream Anaconda might not know this as second nature anymore. Terry talked about unions and suggested changing “largest” to “most membership.”

Rose Nyman made a motion to accept the ad as presented. Terry LaValley seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

- 2024 Schedule

Date	Topic	Speaker
January 11	Anaconda's Jewel: Hearst Free Library	Sam Walters
February 8	Black History Month: Munday Matriarchs	JP Williams
March 14	Anaconda's Labor Unions	John Forkan
April 11	Remembering the Community of Mill Creek	Marty Billquist
May 9	Betting at Daly's racetrack	Sharon Wren
June 13	Wildlife in community	Kirstie Yeager
September 12	People of the Big Hole Valley	Mary Lynn McKenna
October 10	Tracing the history of the Gold Coin Mine	John Fitzpatrick
November 14	Holiday Traditions- Thanksgiving & Christmas events	

Rose told the group that Mary Lynn has started preparing for her presentation and has invited other Big Hole Valley families to help her, and that she will get the April speaker's contact info. Rose pointed out the need to find a November speaker, and reported that she has been getting stories, articles, and photos shared with her.

Bob said that the May title should change to something like "Marcus Daly's racetrack and other town amenities" as the presentation may not focus solely on the racetrack.

Public Comment: Anita suggested Gregson/Fairmont hot springs and the street cars as presentation topics.

Documents: [HistoricResources-March2024.pdf](#)

3.II. Oral History Interviews

Planning a podcast to feature local history and speakers. Resources available at <https://oralhistory.org/best-practices-guidelines-and-toolkits/>

KBMF Collection: <https://www.verdigrisproject.org/oral-history-collection>

Gayla had reached out to KBMF about a possible collaboration where the station would interview and record at \$250/interview. If the group was interested in editing these for air on the station it would cost about \$75/interview for a condensed 30-minute version. She noted that money is included in the proposed CLG budget that could fund 8 interview recordings. For the project to be eligible it would have to include some focus on historic buildings & structures or preservation education.

Rose shared that she had listened to a few interviews from different sources (including [Montana History Portal](#), [Verdigris Project](#) and [UM Interviews \(Irish focus\)](#)). She learned some do's & don'ts and encouraged the group to listen to some available recordings. She noted that not many local women were featured.

Bob liked the idea of professionally recorded interviews. He wondered if someone local (like a reporter or a teacher) might be interested in conducting interviews. Rose had previously contacted paper staff about this possibility.

Terry asked about how much research this would involve and the group's role. Bob thought the HRB would identify the individuals and some of their history to include in the interviews.

Public Comment: Anita identified Larry as a great candidate to be interviewed. She has spoken to a high school English teacher in the past who had expressed interest in a project like this and would not require the cost involved with professional recording. She encouraged getting young people involved. She cautioned against any editing to keep the story as presented.

Bob thought both routes could be of importance- getting kids involved and having something a family could keep. He noted that if editing for radio air is done the original recording would still be retained.

Terry LaValley made a motion to table until other board members will be present. Rose Nyman seconded; passed 3-0.

- 3.III. Interpretive Marker at Anaconda Rest Area
Designing a 24" by 36" (includes 1" border) sign for the production, maintenance, and installation by MDT.

Bob suggested that a scenic byway map could be the focus of the sign and that tourist points along the route could be highlighted. He mentioned Smoke Stack State Park, Spring Hill, Georgetown Lake, Flint Creek Pass as tourist points on the way to re-joining I-90. Terry spoke in favor of Bob's idea and encouraged inclusion of Lost Creek State Park.

Bob asked about the timeline, and Gayla shared that MDT would like to have this approved and installed by the summer for tourist season.

Bob and Terry agreed to collaborate on text and photos. They requested any suggestions by the 8th.

Public Comment: None

Documents: [REST STOP REMEDIATION SIGN.PDF](#)

4. New Business

- 4.I. CLG 2024-2025 Grant

Certified Local Government Grant application

Gayla noted that the budget includes registration for 3 attendees to the annual conference with lodging as part of the \$2,000 grant which the county is eligible to apply for. The application additionally requests \$2,000 for an oral history project.

Rose asked about the 11 ads for the speaker series. Gayla said that she'll correct the math, and that the additional ads were planning for Smeltermen's day activity and preservation month.

Terry LaValley moved to accept the grant application. Rose seconded; carried 3-0.

Public Comment: None.

Documents: [CLG 2024 GRANT APPLICATION DRAFT.PDF](#)

4.II. Preservation Month Planning (4.6.1)

May activity/event planning.

Rose shared a list of potential stops for a second Main Street stroll:

- B A & P RR Depot (ABC Lumber)
- Torgerson Brothers/Intermountain Depot
- Smelter City Brewery/Electric Light Building
- 1st Montana Bank/Daly Bank Building
- Thompson Bar (Sports photos)
- Anaconda Standard Building/Elks Club
- US Post Office-circa 1933
- The Montana
- Washoe Theatre
- First Presbyterian Church/Pipe Organ
- Hearst Free Library
- Former Junior High School
- St. Mark's Church

She said that she had received a suggestion about churches but found only a few to be historic. Bob liked the Main Street focus and thought the suggestions could be several years' worth. Rose suggested starting at the north end and moving south. Terry suggested including the post office.

Group decided to ask representatives for ABC Lumber, Torgerson Brothers, Daly Bank, and ending at the Elks. Each confirmed location will have a speaker. The Elks will also be asked if the space can be used for a reception.

Public Comment: Anita voiced support of including the post office.

Rose Nyman moved to host the 2nd annual Main Street Stroll to include (if willing) ABC Lumber, Torgerson Brothers, Daly Bank, and ending at the Elks. Terry LaValley seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

Terry LaValley made a motion to hold the event on Saturday, May 18th. Rose seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

5. Miscellaneous/Announcements

- a. Board: Rose reserved the hut for an HRB Smeltermen's Day event (setup on Aug. 9th and event on 10th). She reported that she is to receive a Ledo Cocktail Lounge silhouette. Rose is also planning a tour of the BSB Archives for 6-8 people; Terry was interested in attending.

b. Public: None.

6. Public Comment- This is the time for the public to comment on items NOT appearing on the agenda that fall within the board's jurisdiction.

None.

7. Next Meeting: March 7, 2024

Note: Anaconda's Past, a community speaker series, will be held next Thursday at Noon at The Elks

8. Adjournment (11:38AM)

DRAFT