

## Historic Resources Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 10AM  
Community Service Center, 3rd floor Conference Rm

1. Call to Order (10 AM) by Chair McKenna.  
Present: Chair Mary Lynn McKenna, Vice-Chair Bob Wren, Rose Nyman, Lynette Foulger, Gayla Hess, Code Enforcement Officer Joe Ungaretti, and Planning Director Carl Hamming.

2. Welcome New Member  
Gayla Hess told the group that Lynette Foulger's appointment was made official on Tuesday and expressed excitement to have her on the board.

Lynette Foulger said that she was excited to join the group.

3. Previous Meeting Minutes

Documents:

[05-20-21 HRB-MINUTES DRAFT.PDF](#)

No comments or corrections were mentioned by board or public. Rose Nyman moved to approve the minutes of May 20<sup>th</sup> and Vice-Chair Bob Wren seconded the motion. HRB voted 4-0. Motion passed.

4. Unfinished Business

- 4.I. Historic Preservation Plan

Discuss first draft of the HPP and upcoming public outreach meeting(s).

Documents:

[20210602\\_ADLC HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN \(FIRST DRAFT\).PDF](#).

Gayla Hess briefed the group on how The Lakota Group is working on some formatting tweaks this week before posting the draft on the project website, reported that a revised draft is anticipated by the end of June, tentatively talking about an online webinar mid-July for public outreach and comment, and targeting a presentation to the Commission by the consultants in August.

Rose Nyman said that she had started her review and is thankful for a paper copy of the draft plan.

Bob Wren shared that he liked the breakdown of commercial and residential for guidelines. He also mentioned the grant opportunities section- noting that the Ivankovich house could be a candidate as a tax credit project if it were a business such as a B&B.

Joe Ungaretti spoke about recent interest in this home and this type of building and said that he would like to see it saved.

Rose Nyman recalled some interior features: interior woodwork had been painted, a marble counter in the butler's pantry, some pocket doors, and small tiling.

Carl Hamming asked again about the timeframe for public outreach and suggested that the meeting could be held before that time so that the comments could be incorporated before that meeting.

Rose Nyman questioned mention of a revised draft. Gayla Hess replied that the consultant was expecting comments from her and ALDC; any content changes would be from local staff or based off comments received this week or next.

Chair Mary Lynn McKenna suggested that the board meet **July 1<sup>st</sup> at 10AM** to discuss the HPP draft

4.II. Speaker Series  
Continued discussion of a speaker series.

Possible collaboration with Friends of the Stack for interview recordings during Smeltermen's Days

Gayla Hess attended a Friends meeting and told the group of their plan to borrow equipment from MSU for recording interviews or stories during Smeltermen's Days. Would the HRB like to help by adding to the list of interview questions or by volunteering at the table?

Carl Hamming confirmed the event dates of Aug 6,7,8.

Mary Lynn McKenna asked who they should contact if interested and recalled that at past Smeltermen's Days there were interesting stories told- even while waiting for the bus tours and that this could be an opportunity to find contacts for the speaker series.

Rose Nyman recalled hearing John Fitzpatrick speak about family history, their store the meat & grocery market where an antique shop is now located.

Chair Mary Lynn McKenna asked if the group had any additional ideas. Joe Ungaretti suggested contacting Jeff Frank for the history of schools or sports.

Mary Lynn also recommended a speaker to talk about Carroll as many aren't aware of the town out there. Rose Nyman noted that some have speculated some of the homes on Cherry were moved from Carroll. Joe Ungaretti mentioned Burt Freer's house along 200 block of East Pennsylvania.

Carl Hamming mentioned Mill Creek with Mary Lynn McKenna noting that it would be an interesting topic as so many families lived out there. Joe Ungaretti suggested Marie Johnson as a resource for Mill Creek, and Mary Lynn McKenna recalled Avalon Bilquist is knowledgeable about the area.

Chair Mary Lynn McKenna said that with a target start of September that there is still time to plan.

5. New Business

5.I. 706 Birch  
Upcoming demolition application for house damaged by fire.

Documents:  
[706 BIRCH INVENTORY.PDF](#)

Joe Ungaretti introduced the house by talking about the fire, how the property is 5 years delinquent on taxes, and that the owner will sign it over to the county this afternoon. He told the group of the strange, small lot size and how it's unbuildable. Rose Nyman suggested something could be built if following existing footprint.

*Note: Photos and referenced article are appended to minutes.*

Mary Lynn McKenna asked if the county would sell the land to the adjoining neighbors following the demolition to put it back on tax rolls. Joe Ungaretti replied that this would be a decision by the CEO and Commission.

Rose Nyman commented on the overall condition of this block in the neighborhood. Gayla Hess stated that the property was once listed as contributing to the NHL but is now in poor condition.

5.II. Semiannual Report To Commission  
Discuss board report

Gayla Hess proposed the July 13<sup>th</sup> work session for the HRB's report; spoke of providing last report submitted to SHPO and a link to the Preservation Plan draft.

Rose Nyman said that it would be nice to have a PowerPoint or something to highlight some of the key features of the plan

Mary Lynn McKenna proposed discussing highlights to showcase during the meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

6. Miscellaneous/Announcements  
a. Board:

Rose Nyman brought 1950s era photos of past Smeltermen's Days for the group to see.

Rose Nyman brought up qualifications for the board and asked if there would be interest in changing these as member qualifications were from SHPO. Bob Wren said that locals that are interested might not qualify though mentioned the wording allowing members without specified qualifications if the positions had been advertised without interest. Mary Lynn McKenna also mentioned the good-faith wording.

Gayla Hess asked the group to take the Montana Preservation Plan Update 2023-2027 survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W6VFZCK?fbclid=IwAR0WVqZEbzb7rO7OPrQy8Agp9nE0q88EfWN3jTPyqSI36zXEjmXltwQ31Os>

Gayla Hess told the group of being contacted by an arts group from Brookvale Colorado about 516 Spruce. The Walker residence is a small shot-gun house highlighted by SHPO as one of Montana's African American Heritage Resources

<https://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo/AfricanAmericans/Places/PropertyRecords/Anaconda>

b. Public

Joe Ungaretti told the group he was contacted by Mr. Pitcher about cleaning up, removing graffiti, and restoring the wall exposed following the Torgerson annex demo. Property owner may sand blast the side of the Torgerson.

Rose Nyman asked about the county paving that lot as parking is needed downtown, and Joe Ungaretti confirmed that this is planned though he is unsure about when it will be done.

Bob Wren pointed out that sandblasting could be detrimental and that there are other methods like a pressure washer with specific PSI for brick and referred the group to the HPP draft.

Mary Lynn McKenna thought professionals may be needed. Joe Ungaretti brought up the contractors who are working on the Courthouse. AOH has a stone from Ireland that the organization is seeking a bid to have replicated and possibly moved into the building as it may be too far gone to be restored. He explained that a coating had been added to it in the past that was more of a detriment.

7. 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.

8. Next Meeting: July 1<sup>st</sup> at 10AM
9. Adjournment (10:36AM)

Minutes approved at 07/01/21 meeting. *G. Hess*



Figure 1: Google street view photo, dated June 2012



Figure 2: Photo courtesy Joe Ungaretti, dated June 2021

# 'The house is totally gone': Woman rescued, dog killed in Anaconda house fire

- [Anne Pentilla](#) Mar 15, 2018 Updated Mar 21, 2018



Police, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel respond to a house fire late Thursday morning at 706 Birch St. in Anaconda. A woman was pulled from the fire and is being treated at Community Hospital of Anaconda, police say.  
Chelsea Voorhies. Provided

## [Anne Pentilla](#)

A 60-year-old woman is being treated at Community Hospital of Anaconda after a fire broke out at her home on Birch Street in Anaconda late Thursday morning.

Police Chief Tim Barkell said police responded around 10:30 a.m. to the home at 706 Birch St.

“The house is totally gone,” said Barkell, describing the damage to the home.

“The house was totally engulfed,” Anaconda Fire Chief RJ Tocher said, noting that the home is most likely a total loss.

Tocher said the cause of the fire is under investigation and is deemed undetermined for now. However, he said, fire officials have pinned down the room where the fire started.

Captain Steve Ernsberger was one of the first officers to arrive at the scene. He was unable to enter through the front of the home, Barkell said, but was able to gain entry through a back door. When he opened the door, smoke poured from the home, and he could see the woman lying on the floor, according to the police chief. The captain entered the home, Barkell said, and pulled the woman to safety.

Barkell said the woman was rolled in snow and lifted over the back fence to be treated by emergency medical personnel and was soon transported to Community Hospital.

Barkell said the woman is unconscious but did speak while she was being treated. As of Thursday afternoon, he was unaware of her medical status.

Captain Ernsberger was treated for smoke inhalation, the police chief said, and has since been medically cleared.

No one else was in the home at the time of the fire, Tocher said, but a small dog perished in the blaze.

[https://mtstandard.com/crime-and-courts/the-house-is-totally-gone-woman-rescued-dog-killed-in-anaconda-house-fire/article\\_79d2a52c-a045-5cf8-b620-bc18b50accee.html](https://mtstandard.com/crime-and-courts/the-house-is-totally-gone-woman-rescued-dog-killed-in-anaconda-house-fire/article_79d2a52c-a045-5cf8-b620-bc18b50accee.html)