

City of Sidney  
Historic Preservation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 12:10pm by the Vice Chairperson of the board.

Board Members Present: Rich Phillips, Casey Cortney, John Phillips, Greg Huck, Kay Hicks, and Meagan Smuin. Board members absent: Doug Meier. Additional attendees included: Ben Dayton, Gary Person, and Megan McGown.

Approval of minutes: J. Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2012 meeting with the correction of adding Kay Hicks to board members present and adding Doug Meier to board members absent. Smuin seconded the motion and the motion carried with all in favor.

Review any submitted plans, projects specifications: There were no submitted plans, projects or specifications.

Approval of reimbursements of funds:

Rauner and Associates submitted a request for reimbursement. Their request comes prior to project completion due to the amount of money already spent as well as the construction season delay. Invoices were submitted for exterior work and totaled over \$27,000. R. Phillips made a motion to approve the maximum amount of \$5,000. Huck seconded the motion and the motion was approved with all in favor.

Comments by board members: Smuin asked about the funding for the program and how it is allocated. Person explained that the funds come from the ½ cent sales tax that residents approved in 2007, allotting \$50,000 per year that for downtown improvements. The façade grant program is administered using a portion of these dollars. The fund is also used for other downtown improvements.

Cortney asked about implementing some of the recommendations that Audrey Mohr made at the last meeting. Smuin made a point that in some communities, a smaller committee would be formed for the design review prior to the board meeting and that committee would be responsible for citing the standards that apply to the situation. She indicated that we might not be at that level right now and that instead, as a board since packets will now be mailed in advance, board members can review the design, review the standards and design guidelines and be ready to cite the standards/guidelines used. J. Phillips said that the early packets give the board a chance to ask questions and do some research prior to the meeting. R. Phillips appreciated Mohr's comments about making appropriate recommendations to building owners rather than denying the project. Smuin stated that education is a key and suggested the next time we apply for grants that we look at hiring a consultant to do a workshop for both the board as well as the public.

Comments by City Manager: Person updated the board on the Cabela's project, stating that it is internally moving forward. As soon as weather allows, the project will be in fast forward. They hope to be occupying the building by summer, relocating 130 employees to the location.

McGown is waiting on the state to get the CDBG for Downtown Revitalization online in order to apply for the next phase of improvements to the downtown. Scott Day will be in Cheyenne in late

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January and may be visiting Sidney to help with input. McGown is also collecting feedback regarding the street closure that occurred between Nov. 26 and Jan. 3. Person also announced that the Lt. Governor will be in Sidney in March to present Main Street Awards and an invite will be sent out as the event date is finalized.

Person notified the board that the Swimming Pool consultants will be in town January 21-22 to meet with planning commission, City Council, and the Swim Pool committee.

He updated the board regarding the property clean up issues, stating that one property has been fully cleaned up and a court date has been set for January 9, 2013 for another property.

Finally, he noted that a busy year is ahead with over \$100 million in projects on the board for next year. The Cabela's housing and development planning project will release updates in March. The apartment complex is also moving forward.

No comments by the public.

All business being addressed, the meeting adjourned at 12:45pm