

Murray History Advisory Board
Minutes for February 28, 2018

Attendance: Mildred Horton, Laurel Shepard, Wendy Parsons Baker, Sara Roach, Pam Benson, Syanna T. Madsen, and Rebecca Santa Cruz.
Staff: Lori Edmunds, Katie Lindquist, and Jennifer Broschinsky
Visitor: Wendy DeMann and Janis Strobel

1. Minutes for January 24th we approved as written.

- a. Jennifer reported on the museum. The museum will not be moving to a new location at least until the new Murray City Hall is built. The relocation is still unknown. Jennifer has been in the process of learning best practices for the museum with a program titled StEPs (Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations). The Utah Division of Arts & Museums (UDAM), Utah Humanities (UH), and the Utah Division of State History (USH) are partnering to present a pilot program based on the American Association for State & Local History's (AASLH) Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations (StEPs) that will offer six small Utah museums and local history organizations a two-year enrichment opportunity designed to help them achieve success in six areas of institutional practice. Space is limited and by competitive application. Lori would like herself, Jennifer and Katie to enroll in the workshops. Mention was made that the State Historic Preservation Department is experiencing a lot of damage at their facility. It would be wise to get the proper training for our museum staff.

Programming for the Museum was discussed. Museum Mondays: MaryAnn started these programs with the goal of bringing people to the museum. Last year Jennifer composed a list of activities and board helped narrow down the choices. The biggest limitations right now are space and money in the current budget. Mildred asked how the program was advertised and how well were they attended. Attendance was low last year: 22 kids attend the first one, 16 at the second, and only 9 at the last. It felt like it was mostly babysitting, and the children were not entirely engaged in the activity. Lori said that the advertising was placed in the brochure that was handed out to all school kids. We had full registrations, but as the numbers showed, those registered would not all show up. The first activity had the most attendance, but the space caused difficulty. Some parents came and dropped kids off who perhaps should not have been left without a parent. The second activity (Art focused) had good engagement.

- b. Lori would like the board to help decide if this programming should continue so that we can get the programming into the publications. She feels the goal and purpose of the program is not being fulfilled.

Syanna's concern is if it were to discontinue this year would we be able to effectively bring it back in the future, or would we lose what attention we already have for it. It is fine to recognize that maybe we don't have the resources we would need for a full-blown activity but would hate to have the museum fall off the radar after putting effort into it.

She would like us to explore other ideas to help offset the lack of space issues – more virtual/social media attractions. Lori suggests a monthly riddle that could drive people to a historic building and having the participants physically bringing photo/answer to the museum. Wendy suggested participants take pictures of the house they think is the oldest in their neighborhood and so on. Lots of ideas for riddles/activities that wouldn't need space use. We could use outdoor space area to hold activities.

Lori wondered if we used the riddle activity and had them bring in the answers to the Museum, if that would suffice in fulfilling the goal. They come into the museum and can receive a treat (museum pencil, etc.) so that there is still some level of interaction with the museum but not necessarily through an activity inside the museum. Mildred suggested that we do an activity like what the library does over the summer (summer reading program). Prepare a list where people can work up levels and that would determine their "treat" they can earn. Wendy suggested close up photos of places in Murray that people have to figure out.

Mildred asked if we post the hours and location of the museum in all our advertising/programming? It is crucial since the hours are limited to let people know when they can come in.

Sara asked if we have to only aim for kids for the activities? Help push the word out about the Museum, but maybe adults have more interest in the museum or don't know it is there since they wouldn't be on the school tours. Use the Murray Memories FB page to help push attention to the museum.

Mildred wondered if we could find prizes. Lori said she would look into Chick -Fil-A (used by the recreation department often). She also suggested having a closing event at the Park for those who followed all clues or completed the entire activity or identified all 10 houses, etc.

Lori reported that it came to our attention that next year is the Railroad's 150th anniversary. Does the history board want to do something in correlation to that celebration? Murray had a depot at one time. Katie will do more research and come up with ideas to celebrate.

Murray Memories: Facebook page for public to post. Cheryl Gray is involved in the administration. Looking into the creation of the Murray Utah History FB page and how it interacts with the City. The board was wondering if there could be a name change to Murray Museum to include more presence for the museum. Sara is also an administrator, but it is believed that Britney had created it (past History Board member) for the City to use. Lori will follow up with that. Connect this page to the Murray Memories page for more followers. Katie would like to use Facebook Live to help boost visibility. Live and videos are pushed to the top of FB newsfeed and will be advantageous for us to use.

3. Lori gave update on Murray Theater. There was supposed to be a meeting previous Tuesday, but it was rescheduled at a later date. The city is using the marquee to advertise programs to help people get used to looking at it and noticing the changes in text. She

will be attending the Zoo Arts and Park meeting with the Parks and Recreation Director, Kim Sorenson tomorrow night to see if they will qualify for a facility support grant.

4. New trail is completed but does not have signage yet and we need to move forward on that. Lori reported that funds for the signage have been added to the C.I.P. (Capital Improvement Projects) list.

5. Demolition requests: none are on the register

- a. 5789 S. State Street
- b. 5091 S. Wesley Street
- c. 5070 S. 1100 E.
- d. 262 E. 5900 S.

Did have a call about a property located at 136th-140 E and 4800 S. He bought property and relocating to Murray. Lori believes he bought it as an investment but very interested in the history of the property. He was excited that it was an Historic building.

6. Jennifer and Katie went to the Museum Advocacy Day at the Utah Legislature. They were able to meet the new senator, Brian Zehnder who is over one of the Murray Districts (#8).

7. May events: Heritage Month

- a. Cemetery Tours: Jennifer will be planning this activity and will pick some names to tell their stories.
- b. Award. *Will try to find list (if there is one) of past recipients
 - a. Wendy and Mildred both recommended MaryAnn Kirk to be awarded. She will be gone before May but possible to recognize and present her the award during City Council before she leaves.
- c. Home Street Bus tour:
 - a. Wendy: don't typically give a bus tour every year. Usually pick 2-3 houses and have an expert there to talk about the history and architecture of the houses. The two that were discussed were:
 - i. Murray Mansion
 - ii. Rebecca's house – was toured 2 years ago but attic was used to film parts of Little Women.
 - b. Pioneer day – different tour then the Home Street Bus tour.

8. 5-year plan.

- a. 2017 year of completed projects. All completed.
- b. 2018 Due to the fact that the museum will not be moving this year, Lori decided to remove some of the goals from this year and move them down to a later time when they can realistically be completed.
 - 1. Start new StEPS program
 - 2. Move and redesign museum – will remove from list
 - 3. Expand volunteer program – remove from list

4. Develop history products for new museum: will order pencils and with new budget, order mugs.
5. Continue to expand museum programming – remove from list
6. Seek funds to restore Murray Theater
7. Mitigation for demos in MCCD – leave for now but may move to 2019
8. Review Local Registry – Korral is creating ILS for the cemetery and annexing some homes into the Hillside District.
9. Update mailing addresses for registry
10. Update Utah Preservation mobile app if needed: have the walking tour on it. The app has experienced some changes and name change so Katie will do some research on this and watch for the updates to the MCCD.
11. Oral Histories: MaryAnn did Bob Burger and will be doing another one.
 - i. Jennifer is working on the transcripts
 - ii. Suggested Oral Histories to compile this year:
 - a. MaryAnn Kirk
 - b. Mildred Horton
 - c. Jack DeMann (if not already done) Wendy DeMann will check.
12. Create digitization plan (Marriott or other agency) for long term storage: This is in progress.
13. Explore Murray Journal history spotlights:
14. Maintenance of historic signage: fund request placed in C.I.P.
 - i. Costco mural: placed separate
 - a. Need to research more background on installation and how to best maintain the mural. Parks department cleans it the best they can every year – but there is water damage that will need to be addressed (mainly coming from behind the wall).
 - b. Syanna – what was the obligation putting it up in the first place? Is it more reasonable to repair now or wait a few more years? Need to know history of how it was installed – with mitigation money? Also check with any legal obligations there may be.
 - c. Mildred – approach Costco for sponsorship
 - ii. Jordan River and Canal signage

We need to review the list and really think about our priorities for 2018 and where to spend the most focus. As things are planned out and reviewed, we may find it best to reassign some items to 2019 projects.

A. Priorities:

- a. Oral Histories
- b. StEPS program (will be doing for sure)
- c. Funds for Murray Theater (will most likely shift to 2019, but ongoing)
- d. Local / National registries: always ongoing

Lori will have new list for next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 28th.

