Minutes of the April 27, 2016
Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Members Present: Ali DeMersseman, Clancy Kingsbury, Nate Nelson, John Riker and Alternates Tim Smith and Aaron Sanders

Members Absent: Eric Monroe, Ken Orrock and Alternate Chris Wehrle

Others Present: Sarah Hanzel, Patsy Horton, Jeanne Nicholson, Alex DeSmidt and Ritchie Nordstrom, City Council Liaison

Kingsbury called the meeting to order at 7:49 a.m.

Approval of Meeting Agenda
DeMersseman moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Smith and carried unanimously.

New Business

Alex DeSmidt, Landscape Designer, Rapid City Parks and Recreation
DeSmidt thanked the Commission for inviting him to the meeting and for their interest in the historic characteristics of several parks in the City. He reviewed the development and funding of the park system and the park projects in progress. He explained that two parks, Dinosaur Park and Halley Park (the museum) are on the National Register and briefly reviewed the history of these two parks. He further explained the history of the other historic parks, Canyon Lake Park, Founders Park and Wilson Park. He added that improvements will be made to Wilson Park after the Mt. Rushmore Road construction project is complete. DeSmidt informed the Commission that rehabilitation has been done on the historic walls on Skyline Drive. He reviewed the historic components at Founders Parks and noted that the rock is eligible for being listed on the National Register. DeSmidt stated that a lot of the parks are located in the floodway. He added that preservation and rehabilitation are important aspects of our park systems and the best methods for protection of historic features needs to be determined. He added that a Committee has been developed to look at signage and historical markers for Skyline Drive and Dinosaur Park, and that it would be beneficial if a member from this Commission would sit on this committee.

In response to a question from Kingsbury, DeSmidt stated that the foundation is in a high traffic area and is dangerous because of its condition. Discussion followed regarding the historical features in Founders Park.

In response to a question from Nordstrom, DeSmidt stated that currently the Founders Park rock is the only item that has been through the 3D scanning process. He added that there are opportunities for other park features to be scanned but funding of the scans would need to be determined.

Nordstrom expressed his interest for scanning of other historical features in the future.

Riker suggested that maybe this Commission could look at using some grant funding for this type of project next year.
DeSmidt informed the Commission that Dinosaur Park will be 80 years old next year and supposedly there is a time capsule in the large dinosaur. He added that maybe some form of scanning can be done to determine if a time capsule exists.

In response to a question from Nordstrom regarding the National Register application, DeSmidt advised that no formal application has been completed and maybe the Parks Department and this Commission could work together on this project. A brief discussion followed.

Additional discussion followed regarding the rock in Founders Park.

DeSmidt stated that Deadwood Grant funds could possibly be available for the signage and the historical markers. DeMersseman suggested that maybe some of the grant funding could be used for this project also. Riker concurred.

Hanzel informed the Commission that they could consider using funds for signage and historical markers in the next grant application. She added that maybe this project could be done in conjunction with the 80th birthday of Dinosaur Park.

Report from the April 7, 2016 Strategic Planning Session
Kingsbury asked if the Commission members had any comments on the report. He added that the Commission should be able to use this report in the future for guidance on upcoming projects.

Hanzel expressed her opinion that this report should be helpful for the subcommittees and that the report can be updated as progress proceeds on projects.

Nordstrom stated that it was a pleasure working with the Commission at the retreat and that the retreat was very informative.

DeMersseman added that the retreat was very helpful and suggested that the Commission hold one on an annual basis.

DeMersseman moved to acknowledge the Report from April 7, 2016 Strategic Planning Session. The motion was seconded by DeMersseman and carried unanimously.

Approve Awards and Proclamation for Preservation Month 2016
Hanzel explained that two Preservation Month awards, one for a commercial property and one for a residential property, for property reclamation will be presented to the property owners. She added that Mayor Allender will read a proclamation for Preservation Month at the City Council meeting on May 16, 2016.

Kingsbury stated that the awards will be presented to the McGillycuddy House and the Aby’s Feed and Seed complex.

Hanzel stated that she will reach out to the property owners to see how they want the award presented.

DeMersseman moved to approve the Preservation Month awards and proclamation as presented. The motion was seconded by Riker and carried unanimously.
Hanzel recommended that a member from the Commission be available to present the awards at the May 16, 2016 meeting.

**Acknowledge the Final West Boulevard Historic District Survey Report**
Hanzel requested the Commission to acknowledge the final report of the resurvey project. She added that the petition to not expand the historic district and all of the public comments that have been received are included in the report. She noted that the comments indicate that there is not an interest to expand the historic district. Discussion followed.

**DeMersseman moved to acknowledge the Final West Boulevard Historic District Survey Report with the recommendation that the City not pursue a boundary expansion of the Historic District at this time. The motion was seconded by Riker and carried unanimously.**

**Treasurer’s Report**
Hanzel briefly reviewed the expenditures and the remaining grant balance as of March 21, 2016.

**Approval of Minutes**
Riker moved to approve the March 9, 2016 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by DeMersseman and carried unanimously.

Hanzel advised that she that would be out of the office on May 11, 2016 and asked if the Commission would be available to have the meeting on May 18, 2016 instead. The Commission concurred with moving the meeting.

Hanzel explained that the Alex Johnson Hotel has submitted a sign application to replace the neon tubing with LED strips on the sign on top of the hotel. She added that the Historic Sign Review Committee would be reviewing the application at 9:00 on April 27, 2016. A brief discussion followed.

Hanzel informed the Commission that the State has reviewed our grant application for $24,000 and have notified us that $20,000 has been approved for the upcoming grant. She further explained that funds from line items can be shifted around to coincide with the new grant amount. A brief discussion followed regarding the proposed workshop identified in the grant application.

**DeMersseman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 a.m. The motion was seconded by Smith and carried unanimously.**