

PRESCOTT STATE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 9, 2009 – 9:00 A.M.

CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present: Barbara Gilliss, John Langellier, David Maurer, Bob Bell, Nancy Burgess, Lindsey Mills, Elisabeth Ruffner (by phone)

Meeting called to order by Barbara Gilliss at 9:09 a.m.

1. **Review and possible approval of meeting notes from January 29, 2009 meeting.**
Barbara asked for any corrections or additions. There were none. Barbara then stated the meeting notes were approved as submitted.
2. **Distribution of Committee member contact information.** (Nancy Burgess/John Langellier). Contact information was updated as attached.
3. **Review and possible action on a Grant Project Report/Preliminary Report on possible "Then & Now" exhibit.** John Langellier reported that the concept was reviewed and that exhibit space at Sharlot Hall Museum isn't available until October 2010. Nancy suggested that the exhibit would not have to be initially located at Sharlot Hall and could be located at another venue or scheduled for travel.

John reported that his work schedule at the museum would be reduced to half time and that much of his staff would have reduced hours as well, therefore there will be no staff time available to design and build a Centennial exhibit. Nancy reminded the group that a state grant could be available for a maximum of \$10,000 however it would require a 40% cash match. She noted that the City has provided matching funds in the past. John stated that with such funds available, his staff would be able to mount the project.

Barbara asked if it would be appropriate to request the matching funds from the City, and Nancy said that it would. Bob Bell suggested that the item could be placed on the City Council' study agenda for February 14 and its meeting agenda for February 24.

It was noted that time is short to draft a proposal to apply for state funding, and a discussion followed regarding other possible funding sources. Nancy noted that the Preservation Commission is to meet on Friday in Phoenix and that there could be \$12-13,000 available from the Historic Preservation fund. Elisabeth suggested that the

proposal should also be presented to PACT and DPD for possible funding. She also reminded committee members that other groups in the community will be encouraged to mount projects and that this committee is not solely responsible for Centennial events.

David Maurer said that he had concerns that the project was being rushed. Nancy and John agreed, stating that there are many uncertainties in this environment. Nancy reminded the committee that there will be access to a maximum of \$10,000 at this same time in 2010. The consensus of the committee was to delay any project or application for funds until 2010 to allow for development of a concept.

Discussion regarding the focus of the traveling exhibit project arose when John asked if the theme would be focused on “then and now,” as presented in Allen Dutton’s book, Arizona Then and Now, which was reviewed at the last meeting, or if it might focus on Nancy’s book. Nancy displayed both books and explained that the focus of her book is not just on Prescott but on any western town in 1916 which had a railroad. John stated that it would be an appropriate tool to describe what Prescott looked like in February 1912.

4. **Discussion and possible action on the inclusion of groups throughout the city involved in planning and conducting Centennial events.** Nancy reported that a letter was sent to Ken Bennett requesting his assistance in obtaining centennial designation.
 - a. **Application of Legacy Project standards to community groups event** Barbara noted that the City Resolution specifically states that “legacy project and other Centennial events” are to be encouraged for participation by “community organizations and individuals throughout the City.”

Barbara also noted that both the City and State Historical Society founding documents will require expansion of the Centennial Committee’s mission statement from the version adopted at the first meeting. She submitted a draft of an amended mission statement, and Elisabeth suggested that it be reviewed for discussion and possible action at the next meeting.
 - b. **Discussion and possible action concerning suggestions for groups/organizations – business, financial, health, philanthropic, non-profit, special interests, clubs, the arts, government, religious which might be encouraged to develop a Centennial.** Barbara distributed a list of possible organizations, businesses and others who might be interested in developing a Centennial project. Committee members were asked to review and amend the list in preparation

for determining which organizations might receive invitations to mount Centennial projects.

Barbara suggested that a letter of interest be sent to selected organizations, inviting them to participate in Centennial projects and provided a list of items that might be included in such a letter. She also suggested including a response form to make it easy for organizations or individuals to respond and to collate the information received.

5. **Draft of letter to encourage "Advisory" members of the Prescott State Centennial Committee to become actively involved with it.** (Elisabeth Ruffner) Barbara stated that the City Resolution is very clear that there are to be three categories of people participating in the Committee: Advisors, Agency Representatives, and Professionals. Elisabeth noted that there are three advisory representatives from the colleges. She asked if Bob Bell had other suggestions regarding institutions operating in Prescott. Nancy stated that the Mayor's concept of advisors was to pull people in when the committee's function was clear. These advisors could be students or faculty with resources available such as art departments, computer technology or other resources. Barbara asked Bob Bell to review the original list and talk with the mayor to determine if other organizations might be added and asked to name advisory members to the committee.
6. **Discussion and possible action on policy regarding information dissemination.** (Elisabeth Ruffner) Lindsey suggested that the Courier be approached regarding an article on the Committee's function. Elisabeth Ruffner has been in contact with Cindy Barks and currently provides her with a weekly e-mail concerning activities in the Arts. She will include information to Cindy regarding the actions and proposals of this Committee.
7. **Report on request to Kevin Kapp for school participation.** (Nancy Burgess) Nancy drafted a letter to Kevin Kapp and is awaiting a response.
8. **Ideas for City-wide Kick-Off and/or Culminating event(s).** Elisabeth suggested the reenactment of the 2010 event celebrating the Enabling Act in July 2010 as a kick-off event and agreed to bring the committee specific information regarding the actual events of July 1910 for further review.

9. **Discussion and possible action on need for additional committee officers in addition to Chair and Secretary.** Barbara noted that the City Resolution calls for a Chairman and a Vice Chairman. Elisabeth volunteered to serve as Vice Chairman.
10. **Discussion and possible action on additional committee members.** Barbara noted that additional committee members may be needed as the committee increases its activities.
11. **Press Release to Courier following committee's February 9 meeting.** (Elisabeth Ruffner) Elisabeth agreed to serve in this capacity.
12. **Set date for next meeting.** Tuesday, March 17 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall. Agenda items should be submitted by March 12.