

PRESCOTT: THE ARIZONA CENTENNIAL
CITY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF MONDAY, MAY 18, 2009
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **PRESCOTT: THE ARIZONA CENTENNIAL CITY COMMITTEE**, HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 18, 2009 IN THE PRESCOTT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT PRESCOTT CITY HALL, 201 SOUTH CORTEZ, PRESCOTT ARIZONA

1. Call to Order

Chairman Gilliss called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Gilliss; Councilman Bob Bell; Nancy Burgess; Deborah Thurston; Dr. John Langellier, Elisabeth Ruffner, Lindsey Mills; Dave Maurer; Don Shaffer and Patti Ezell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

GUESTS PRESENT: Frank Sente.

STAFF PRESENT: Becky Garvin; Liz Burke.

2. Approval of the minutes of the April 20, 2009 meeting.

By unanimous consent, the minutes of the April 20, 2009 meeting were approved as amended.

3. Committee Membership (Bell)

Councilman Bell clarified that he had talked with Councilwoman Suttles and she had not previously endorsed anyone as a member on the committee, but rather suggested that someone from the YMCA attend the meetings to know what was going on. Chairman Gilliss said that she spoke with Diane Beletone of the YMCA and she was not trying to get on the committee; she just wanted to be available to assist in any way.

Maurer said that the committee was currently made up of mostly older members and he had a thought that someone from the Prescott Young Professionals should participate. He agreed to try and find someone from that group; members agreed.

4. Report on County Centennial Meeting of April 27, 2009 (Ruffner, Burgess, Gilliss)

It was noted that a County Centennial Committee meeting would not be held in May.

Burgess noted that the County is moving along on a logo with some nice illustrations that the website coordinator had prepared from people's notes. She said that there has been discussion on the book they want to do, which Karen Despain is in charge of, and she will be working with them on that project. She added that they have had two resignations from their committee.

Chairman Gilliss said that the County is talking about beginning their activities in May of 2011 and ending in December of 2012, to take advantage of two summers. Langellier asked if the City's committee should start at a later date, too, if the State Centennial Committee is starting later as well. It was agreed to discuss that issue later in the meeting.

5. Report on Arizona Historical Advisory Committee Meeting and Arizona Historical Advisor's Commission Workshop on State Centennial, held April 25, 2009 (Ruffner, Burgess, Gilliss)

No discussion.

6. Presentation re Centennial Stamp (Frank Sente)

Mr. Sente said that there was not much to tell about a stamp, other than it is a foregone conclusion that they will issue a Centennial stamp. Typically they will honor a Statehood's recognition on 50th anniversaries. He said that he had done some Googling the past few days and then shared with the Committee members what other states have done.

Oklahoma – Their Centennial date was November of 2007; the stamp was issued in January of 2007. There was a first day issue in Oklahoma City held at a historical center.

Oregon – Earlier this year they celebrated their 150th anniversary and had a nonprofit, independent group formed to represent them. They did a lot of events and issued a stamp, but went to Portland rather than Salem (the capitol) because they wanted to get a larger audience. Their anniversary is also February 14 and their stamp was issued on January 14.

Alaska – Just had their 50th anniversary, which was very low key. They issued a stamp but it was not a big event; they did it in a hotel ballroom in Anchorage.

Sente said that he does not think they will see a stamp issued for Arizona until 2012 so if they are looking to do events with souvenirs, there would not be a coordinated stamp.

Sente said that before a stamp is issued there is an unveiling of the design, which is often a big event, and it normally takes place four to six months before the stamp is issued. He said that it depends on how much involvement there has been by an organization with the USPS.

Chairman Gilliss asked Mr. Sente if he had any knowledge of what was going on in Phoenix regarding a stamp. Sente replied he did not know of any plans.

Langellier stated that a prior letter had been sent to an individual that does not attend the meetings so it has not made it to the proper person. He said that he would have it put on the State Committee's June 25 meeting. Chairman Gilliss said that they would ask Member Langellier to be their ambassador.

7. Discussion re Legacy Projects.

Discussion was held on whether the Committee wants to mount its own Citywide Legacy Project, in addition to what is being done throughout the state. Maurer said that they get visitors, on a daily basis, whose number one question is regarding Whiskey Row. He said that Whiskey Row was looking a little tired and perhaps they could do a clean-up, rebuild and rejuvenation project.

Another suggestion was the rodeo grounds, where it was, and providing a museum at the site.

Burgess said that there are two separate issues with regard to Whiskey Row. She said they could create a brochure to tell where it is and its history. The other issue of the appearance is something she has been working with them on for over 20 years. She said there is no consensus among them and there are major issues involving property rights.

Ruffner said that they have some remarkable research about the first businesses on Whiskey Row and they could do a publication for the tourists showing its evolution.

Brief discussion was held on the installation of plaques but it was noted that they are very expensive. Langellier said that there are kiosks available on the plaza and perhaps they could provide information there on Whiskey Row. Burgess noted that one of the panels was to be dedicated for the use of telling about the history. Garvin added that they could provide some history in the St. Michael's Alley area.

Mills said that she thought the Whiskey Row idea was wonderful. She said that another ownership issue is the Rodeo Grounds. They could take a building and turn it into a museum. Burgess noted that the Prescott Preservation Commission has already adopted that as a goal for 2009.

Chairman Gilliss noted that there seemed to be a good possibility of having a City Legacy Project, and suggested a subcommittee be formed to review potential projects.

Burgess suggested that each person on the Committee bring an idea for a legacy project and that a brief summary be drafted and sent to Ms. Burke for circulation to all committee members to review before the next meeting

Chairman Gilliss asked, and members agreed, that the committee would be responsible for both creating a Legacy Project and providing information to entities within the city.

8. Report on Dissemination of Information Planning (Garvin, Gilliss)

Chairman Gilliss said that she thought that the committee needs to provide a time frame before information could be disseminated. She said that Cindy Barks from the Courier has agreed to come to the meetings when she can and get the information out to the public. It was also suggested that Joanna Dodder attend the City Committee's meeting since she already attends the County's meetings and is familiar with what they are doing, and it was recognized that such a decision would need to be made by Courier management.

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that Chairman Gilliss and Ms. Garvin would get with Cindy Barks to start off with a media blitz to get general information out to the public. Shaffer agreed to be the contact person. Further discussion was held below on scheduling.

9. Report on City Centennial Logo (Garvin, Burgess)

Garvin presented a few different logo ideas that had been prepared. After some comments from members, it was agreed that Garvin and Burgess would continue to work on various ideas and bring back further options to the next meeting.

10. Report and Discussion on Tentative Plans for 2011-2012 monthly events/First Day Covers (Note: Please suggest additional/alternative events and possible timing)

Discussion was held on the need to reconsider the City's schedule due to the County's change in their calendar, and also the State's calendar. It was suggested that celebration events start in February of 2011 with the announcement of Prescott as Arizona's Centennial City (if that is done), with an unveiling of the stamp in August, then they could start with the monthly events in January of 2012.

■ 02/11	Elks Opera House (Kick-Off event)	Ruffner
■ 03/11	Buckey O'Neill/Whiskey Row/Pub Crawl/St. Pat's Day ?	
■ 04/11	Smoki Museum/Annual Rug Sales	Langellier
■ 05/11	Phippen Museum	Thurston
■ 06/11	Bluegrass/Music Festivals	Maurer
■ 07/11	Rodeo/Parade	Gilliss
■ 08/11	Cowboy Poets Gathering	Gilliss
■ 09/11	Thumb Butte Art & Heritage Festival	Thurston
■ 10/11	Oktoberfest	Ezell
■ 11/11	VA Hospital/Veteran's Day	Langellier
■ 12/11	Christmas City/Tree Lighting/Acker Night	Maurer
■ 01/12	Tree Planting/Replica of July 4, 1910	?
■ 02/12	Gala Ball/Soiree (Closing Event)	Mills

Maurer noted that committee members were over-thinking. He said that none of the events on the original schedule were new events; the idea was to bring attention to the things already taking place that 2012 would be the Centennial Year.

Concern was voiced with having events in the latter part of 2012 when the actual Centennial Celebration has already taken place during the first part of the year.

Ezell said that events planners would need to always have the Centennial theme at the front of all events. The three organizations she talked with (Bluegrass Festival, PDP and Rodeo Parade) were all excited about doing it in 2011.

Ruffner said that she has done a program in the past for the Historical Convention on Yavapai County, Mother of Counties, from Cradle to Statehood and she would be glad to bring in that information to give to the groups now. Discussion was held on this presentation and Ruffner agreed to come 15 minutes early to show her presentation for anyone on the Committee that was interested.

Chairman Gilliss noted that there are other things that go on during the months, such as March being Women's History Month. It was agreed that there are many other events throughout the year and that was why they needed to publicize the information once it was put together.

Burgess suggested that staff look through old proclamations to find various groups that could be notified.

Chairman Gilliss said that she has also had an offer by the friends and family members of the Goldwaters and they would be glad to come to Prescott to participate in activities. It was also suggested that Nixon's brother may be interested in returning to the area.

11. Further Discussions re Potential Activities:

- July 2010 replica of 1910 events?
- City Logo
- Involvement of Organizations Citywide in City's monthly themed events
- Coordination of Independent group activities
- First Day Covers – schools and others

It was agreed that this item would be put on the back burner for now.

12. Next Step

Langellier said that he would find out more about the possibility of having the State stamp revealed in Prescott.

Shaffer agreed to contact groups within the area.

It was generally agreed to put committee membership on hold.

All members were requested to send in Legacy Project ideas for consideration.

13. Adjournment

There being no further items to discuss, the May 18, 2009 meeting of the Prescott: The Arizona Centennial City Committee adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Barbara Gilliss, Chairman

Lindsey Mills, Secretary