Murray History Advisory Board
Minutes for March 27, 2012

Attendance: Peter Steele, Wendy DeMann, Ian Wright, Reed Wahlquist, David Adams, Ted McBride, Susan Wright, Mary Ann Kirk (staff).

1. Minutes for February 28, 2012 were approved.

2. Mary Ann clarified recommendations related to the historic building at 4973 South State that was modified without design review approval. It received a negative recommendation from staff who felt the changes needed to be reversed, and a modified positive recommendation from the design review who were going to allow some of the changes to remain. The Planning and Zoning agreed with staff and is requiring the owner to restore the historic features. They are guiding the owners to funding sources to help them do that.

3. The schedule was reviewed for neighborhood meetings related to the Utah ShakeOut exercise and educating homeowners on ways to minimize structural damage. The city building official selected five homes to represent various time periods, architectural styles and materials. Building types include unreinforced masonry (early 1900s), ranch/rambler (1950-60), SCR brick and block (1950-60), and split level homes (1950-1970). These meetings will begin on April 17 and run through Saturday April 21. It will be advertised through the Murray Journal and email blasts. There will also be followup meetings in May at Lowe's and Fashion Place where homeowners can ask individual questions. The building department is trying to stress the importance of building inspections to address safety issues.

4. The proposed Oasis Apartments project has been appealed. Jim Brass has indicated he plans to talk about the issue with the city council in a work meeting. Peter has prepared a letter to the City Council that requests moving the city center district boundary to the backside of the properties or modify the requirements to allow some flexibility such as setback to meet the concerns of the neighbors. Mary Ann explained the west side of Center has been zoned commercial for many years and she wasn't sure if this would cause a legal issue. Ted wondered if we could survey the homeowners how they felt about rezoning. Ian asked how a zoning change would affect property values. Peter and Mary Ann said a change to residential from commercial typically drops the value of the property. Susan asked how it would affect property taxes. Mary Ann thought it would lower it if the value of the property was lower. She explained that as part of the former DHOD, it did remain commercial but the design guidelines required compatibility and restricted height to two stories. She asked the board if they wanted to use that approach as an option. Board members discussed whether buildings over 2-3 stories should be allowed between State and Center. David felt the shadow of the buildings should fall on the street, not on the houses on the east side. Peter said the setback could address that issue. The developers were willing to accept another geometrical position of the building, but the design guidelines didn't allow that. Board members still felt consideration of the

boundaries should stay in the letter. Peter suggested including another alternative that reduces height in this area east of State Street. Susan asked what the neighbors were concerned about. Mary Ann said the neighbors are worried that all the homes on the west side could be purchased and developed with high density, creating even more of a traffic issue. The history board felt the density could create a potential need to widen the street which could threaten homes on the east side of the street. Ian made a motion to submit a statement to the City Council that includes the three options including changing the boundaries of the City Center District and zoning, reducing the height east of State Street, or allowing flexibility on urban requirements for additional setback or building orientation. Wendy seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Ted requested the date of the appeal. Mary Ann will try to find that information and email the board for those who would like to attend.

5. There has been a question raised whether we should include current photos and owners of historic buildings listed on our registry on the city website. Peter felt this was already publicly accessible. Mary Ann said people have been concerned about having additional exposure of name and address on the web. One home owner didn't like having a current photo taken. Mary Ann didn't feel that the current owner's name was really necessary and requires constant updating. She has asked the city attorney for advice.

6. A grant is available for oral histories. This has been something the board wanted to do. Mary Ann has found a company that does oral histories and saves the best clips on a CD. This could qualify for the grant. She liked the idea of using listening stations in the museum. Another grant could help us pay for this audio technology. A list of names were compiled for consideration. Mary Ann will review the list and choose names that would directly link to the museum exhibits, and then apply for a grant.

7. Mary Ann noted that the LDS church is planning a family history conference on June 9 at Murray High. They have invited her to attend a planning meeting to talk about professional presenters that could help.