

Murray City History Advisory Board
Minutes for February 23, 2022

Attendance: Rebecca Santa Cruz, Mildred Horton, Wendy Parsons Baker, Laurel Shepard,

Staff: Lori Edmunds, Katie Lindquist, Rowan Coates

Excused: Laurie Densley, Janice Blanchard

Guests: Amy Barry, Morgan Workman

- I. Minutes for February 2 were passed as written with edits.
- II. Board Reports – There were no board reports.
- III. Citizen Comment – There were no citizen comments.
- IV. Staff Reports
 - Museum update: Rowan told the board that she would like everyone to start reaching out and scheduling interviews for the Legacy Project. She will be at the first meeting that each of the volunteers have with the interviewees for the Legacy project to make sure the recording device is working properly and see that all efforts for a comprehensive interview are in place. These interviews should be finished soon so that we will have them for Memorial Day. Rebecca said that she has had a great luck with some original WWII letters and was overwhelmed with the response. Rebecca said since she had so many of her uncles' letters, what our acquisition process would be. Rowan said that all the information gathered would go together as one piece of a collection. Rebecca sighed! Rowan said that all the information can come in at different times and she will add it to the collection. Rebecca asked about another Uncle that had his entire funeral on tape and wondered if we wanted the entire service or try and pull out different parts. Rowan said that best practices are to not edit anything and to keep it exactly as is. Rebecca was touched and said she learned that the funeral represented an entire group of the many service members that did not come home. Rebecca added that she had created a registration for Legacy Project submission form.
Rebecca said that since going through the stories, she was overwhelmed at the sacrifices of these people and was glad to gather these stories that might have never been shared. She was glad the History Board was doing this project for *them*.
Katie then asked if any of the board would volunteer to do the tours of the mansion in March. Lori said this was something that seemed perfect for the board to do. Katie said that the volunteers would be given a script. Rebecca wondered how much of the museum would be on display and Lori said that the tour was simply to let the public see what is happening inside the mansion and how the exhibits will be set up. She said Katie and Rowan are preparing a large poster to show where each exhibit will be placed. The public will not be allowed to go upstairs due to the repairs on the stairway that is still ongoing.
 - Mansion update: Lori said that Paulson Construction was chosen to do the Design/Build on the mansion. It will be an addition to the addition which will bring the building up to

code for toilet rooms and ADA access. This will cost about \$600K. Paulson Company has been chosen. Rebecca read an article about the Moab Museum. She said that when they moved, they needed a new roof and asked the Lions Club to help, and the Lion's Club put on a new roof. Rebecca asked if we could do something like that and Lori said when we get to the grassroots effort to help and get past the big expenditures.

- Cemetery Headstone Care – Lori had asked Amy Barry from the Utah Division of State History as the Cemetery and Burials Program Manager to come and talk about Cemetery Headstone Care. The board had trouble folding the brochures. Amy said she works in the state run SHPO office and runs the cemetery program for the state. She shared a few things she does is to maintain burial information and asked the board if they knew any historical family burial places. Rebecca said that there was a 30 people buried in a section by her home. Wendy asked if there were any family burial places rumored to be in Murray. Amy said she had heard of some and has some information but would like to know of any others the board may know that are located in Murray. Amy said there are a lot of burial sites that are not necessarily a formal cemetery. One of the things Amy developed in the last 5 years has been the preservation component that includes cleaning, resetting, and repairs. She said there is a lot of granite and marble in the Murray Cemetery and that she drove through before she came to the meeting and there was not a lot of leaning monuments. There is preservation manual available with do's and don'ts and lists of appropriate cleaners. Marble is the historic yellow monuments and will deteriorate from the inside if the wrong cleaner is used. Amy said she does workshops, where she would go to a cemetery and clean a few for the attendees. She said there is a place on the pamphlet she brought that told where to purchase the cleaning products. She said there were cleaners to use on the Granite that you should never use on Marble so be careful what you use. Depending on where you live there could be mold etc that could grow on the headstones. Since Amy is the only person in her department, she does trainings at a simple level and sometimes repair work with the sexton. Wendy asked if the cemeteries have people that work that go out and do some of the cleaning and repairing work. Amy said some of the smaller cemeteries do but most don't. She is trying to get an ordinance change for the SL cemetery to let a certified person care for some of the historical headstones however she has trained a few sextons and they will sometimes go out and fix and clean using appropriate products. She does training for volunteer groups and sextons which vary on what they are taught. Morgan Workman, Miss Murray suggested that she could share the idea of cemetery cleaning that could provide a possible platform with the contestants for next years pageant. Amy said most monument companies do not do repair or cleaning correctly. Mildred asked what the process would be to contact people about rehabbing their headstone. Amy said each cemetery is different with their approach to caring for their cemetery. Rebecca asked what Amy considered as a historic headstone. Amy said 80 years old and marble however granite can be historic too. She told us the historic headstones were hand carved. Rebecca asked what how to remove paint or marker and Amy said that there would have to be some very fine chiseling to get permanent paint or marker off. This is why we need to be careful getting volunteers to help with something historic. Do no Harm – Don't do things you can't undo is her motto. Mildred asked if Amy had the brochure in all of the cemetery's

where people could get them, and Amy said she had just created them for our meeting and wanted to change a few things. Amy reiterated that she was a resource for us or any others that needed guidance. Lori suggested that when Amy makes edits to her brochure Lori wanted to make a date during May which is preservation month for the board to sponsor a workshop for cleaning at the Murray City cemetery. Rebecca asked if there is any way that we knew that the family died off, or if we could adopt a stone. Amy said that the cemetery people do not seem interested keeping up with descendants and you never know if the family does not care but would not want others to take care of the headstone. There is potential of overstepping if we were to take care of other people's stones. Amy said Salt Lake Cemetery has many Spanish American war headstones that we know no one is caring for so she is trying to get SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) attorneys to agree on the interpretation of the ordinance so these headstones can be cared for. This will open up the ability to care for those that are not being cared for. Lori will take the edited copy and get copied and taken to our cemetery.

- Murray Park Centennial – Lori said that in 2024 Murray Park will be 100 years old. Lori did not want her department to be fully in charge of a celebration and has passed some of the responsibility off on to the Arts Advisory Board and the Parks Board. Mildred asked if there would be a day celebration and Lori said most likely Fun Days. The History Board could do a publication. Rebecca thought we should publish the history. Lori asked the board to think about it and there could be a committee formed. Maybe the art board could design a shirt. *100 Years of Fun* should be the slogan.
- Time Capsule – Lori said the history board will be in charge of the time capsule for City Hall. She said it was 16" x 16" x 24" which was a decent size but that they fill up quite fast and we will need to decide what should go into it. Not just City staff, but any other outliers that we think appropriate. We need to get on that soon.

V. Business:

VI. Bylaws:

Lori said she had highlighted a couple of things to reconsider. 1) Meetings missed 2) Mayors office "may" be notified. Laurel wanted to keep it as is. 3) Committees that would be in charge of specific projects . Lori said that also we need to put something in the bylaws about having Zoom meeting. Rebecca, wanted to change to chair term elections to bi-annually to choose both chair and vice chair. Mildred said something about how many times you could serve. Lori explained that they all had 3 year terms and could serve twice and that that information was located in the ordinance. Rebecca talked about finishing someone else's term. Laurel said that Wendy's term had ended. Lori will check.

The board wanted the chair to serve two years. Lori asked Rebecca to call for a vote.

The board voted unanimously to accept the changes.

Committees that were decided were:

- Rebecca - Legacy Committee Chair
- Laurel, Wendy – Time Capsule
- Centennial

- Fundraising
- Mansion

Rebecca adjourned the meeting until March 23, 2022