



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

City Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue Meridian, Idaho

Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 4:30 PM

MINUTES

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

<u> x </u> Blaine Johnston, President	<u> x </u> Heather Giacomo
<u> </u> Pam Jagosh	<u> x </u> Ken Freeze
<u> x </u> Jack Keller	<u> x </u> Debra Pitts
<u> x </u> Patrick Gittings, Vice President	

City staff present were Arts and Culture Coordinator, Cassandra Schiffler and City Attorney, Bill Nary.

Also present, Bryan Cottle (Meridian Library District), Barbara Bauer (TAG Historic Research), and Stan Fuller (Idaho Historical Racing Society)

B. Johnston called the meeting to order at 4:32pm.

Welcome New Commissioner Heather Giacomo!

H. Giacomo stated she is a licensed electrical engineer with CSHQA in Downtown Boise where she designs power and lighting for new buildings and remodels. She moved from Montana with her husband of twenty-five years and two boys who attend Boise State and has lived in Meridian for almost 8 years. She has a History degree and is looking forward to giving back to her community.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

P. Gittings made motion to adopt agenda, seconded by J. Keller

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

- 1. Approve:** Minutes from the 2-22-24 Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission

J. Keller made motion to approve minutes, seconded by P. Gittings

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS [ACTION ITEM]

2. Approve: Monthly Financial Statement

K. Freeze made motion to approve the monthly financial statements, seconded by J. Keller

All ayes

REPORTS [ACTION ITEM]

3. Update: Meridian Speedway Listed in the National Register of Historic Places

B. Johnston commended everyone for their work on this project over the last four years and especially thanked B. Bauer of TAG Historic Research (TAG) for all her work on this project. There was lots of good press on this and the next step will be receiving the actual plaque. Likes the idea of street signage as seen on Highway 95 as you enter Winnemucca so will need to contact Ada County Highway District to inquire about the possibility of signage.

C. Schiffler does not have any information or direction on receiving the plaque at this time but will reach out to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for more information. Will need approval from the Meridian Speedway to place anything on the site and will need to discuss cost and placement of any additional signage. C. Schiffler inquired if B. Bauer has any idea where on the site it might be best to place the plaque.

B. Bauer will confirm with the National Parks Service as to how we obtain the plaque but the Commission will need to purchase a plaque through a particular company so will provide information to C. Schiffler. B. Bauer recommends placing the plaque on the Bleacher Dairy Barn or where the beer is sold so that it has the most exposure for people to see the plaque.

Commission Feedback

K. Freeze noted that bronze plaques are prone to theft so wants to ensure the plaque is placed in a secure place. *Yes, if on bleachers would be behind fencing but will work with the Dairy Board to determine location. B. Nary noted if the plaque belongs to the Dairy Board then it is up to them as to where the plaque is placed but if the plaque belongs to the City then that is different. B. Bauer is not sure who would actually own the plaque though she thinks it would be the Dairy Board since they are the property owners.*

4. Presentation: Meridian History Center Updates and Speedway Display ~ Bryan Cottle, History Center Digitization Technician, Meridian Library

Presentation given by B. Cottle of the Meridian Library District (MLD).

Commission Feedback

B. Johnston inquired if MLD keeps a copy, with the owner's permission, of any historic photos brought in by the community during the monthly digitization sessions. *Have done a lot of scanning of photos not pertaining to Meridian history with influx of new residents, but if it does pertain to Meridian history, the photo owner can fill out a form and give MLD permission to keep a copy of the file in the*

History Center archives. There is a copyright notice at the bottom of each digitized collections page on MLD's website.

P. Gittings stated there are historical Meridian newspapers in the basement of City Hall. *Yes, would love to see MLD digitize these but also need to look in to copyright issues and permissions and if funds could be found for a newspaper scanner this would help the process.*

D. Pitts inquired if MLD could offer a digitization event on May 18 in conjunction with the Commission's activities planned for Historic Preservation Month. *Not sure as that is a Saturday and City Hall will be closed but maybe at unBound as they have a scanner and are open on Saturday so B. Cottle said he will talk to his manager.*

5. Update: Walking Tour Guides ~ Barbara Bauer, TAG Historic Research

B. Bauer stated she is currently working on the text for the walking tours and intends to have them ready no later than April 18 so if the Commission wants to make its April meeting a working meeting, could do a walking tour using the draft guides.

D. Pitts, P. Gittings, J. Keller, and H. Giacomo volunteered to meet and participate in a dry run tour. C. Schiffler stated that this represents a quorum so this meeting will need to be noticed as a full Commission meeting and not a subcommittee meeting, so recommended that the Commissioners review the draft documents between April 18 and April 25 and then do the draft tour on April 25 which will already be a noticed Commission meeting. Commissioners agreed to review draft documents between April 18 and April 25 and then do the draft tour on April 25 after the regular Commission meeting. K. Freeze stated he will not be able to participate in the dry run tour on April 25 but will participate in the review of the draft documents. B. Bauer agreed that meeting at 5:30pm for a dry run tour on April 25 works for her.

Commission Feedback

B. Johnston stated he is not sure it could be done during the meeting but if Commissioners wanted to come before or stay after the meeting could do a draft run of the tour. *Yes, want Commissioners to have the opportunity to try it out and if there are any questions or concerns then can make revisions to ensure its what the Commission needs.* The plan is to use it during Preservation Day if Commissioners are comfortable giving tours. *Will provide rough draft to Cassandra on April 18 for Commissioners to review and would like to do a dry run tour with the Commissioners in-person.* Even if only a few Commissioners, would like to host a subcommittee meeting on April 18 to review the draft and then on April 25 can do the dry run tour with B. Bauer present. *Makes sense to me.*

6. Updates: Eggers Farmstead, Historic Preservation Plan, Landmarking Program Historic Research

B. Johnston stated there was quite the discussion at Tuesday's Council meeting about the Eggers Farmstead and any action has been tabled until May so that Council/City Staff/this Commission can come up with some alternatives for the silos. The developer still does not want to do anything besides a monument but a

gentleman who attended the meeting Tuesday is interested in the silos for a future development so B. Johnston will meet with him to discuss. B. Nary confirmed B. Johnston's recap of the Council meeting.

C. Schiffler announced that the CLG Grant from SHPO that the Commission applied for to complete a Historic Preservation Plan received partial funding in the amount of \$12,000 (originally requested \$15,000). The cash match from the Commission will now need to be \$5,000 which will come out of next year's funds. Next year's budget has not yet been approved so the Commission could put forth a recommendation for this cash match if it is ready to do this. B. Johnston asked C. Schiffler to follow-up with Finance regarding Purchasing rules and then the Commission can discuss next month whether to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) or enter a Professional Services Agreement.

C. Schiffler confirmed the agreement with Sheri Freemuth and J-U-B Engineers has been executed for the landmarking historic research, accompanied by the Scope of Work presented to the Commission on February 22. The work is anticipated to begin in May and a kickoff meeting with S. Freemuth, C. Schiffler, B. Johnston, and P. Gittings is anticipated on Friday, May 3.

Commission Feedback

B. Johnston inquired if the RFQ is ready to be released and if a total cost is known to complete the Historic Preservation Plan project. *Cost is \$17,000. We can release the RFP, or can directly contract the one consultant who is interested, Finance's preference would be to enter a Professional Services Agreement with the local consultant.* B. Johnston deferred to Commissioner Gittings as the Subcommittee Chair for this project.

P. Gittings stated that a sole source contract sounds like the easiest way to go and we know the local consultant is a firm that has done these before so thinks it is a good idea. P. Gittings expressed concerned based on his past experience working on a project where consultants were sent a Request for Information but then an RFP was never released so the original companies who were not given the chance to bid on the project sued his company, and since we know of two consultants who could bid on this project he inquired if City Attorney Nary has any concern. *B. Nary stated if we know there are identifiable entities who could perform this service we would generally put out an RFP rather than just contract with one since he cannot justify that we could create a sole source for this if we know there are two that exist. B. Nary stated he does not believe purchasing rules separate in-state versus out-of-state as a disqualifier but whatever Purchasing will allow us to do is fine. C. Schiffler stated she will confirm with Finance.* P. Gittings stated no decision has to be made today as SHPO will not allow the Commission to enter in to any contractual agreement until after SHPO has sent us their contract and has received verification that the funds will be released from the National Parks Service which will not happen until Fall 2024.

NEW BUSINESS [ACTION ITEMS]

7. Discuss: Ada County Treasure Award Nominations

B. Bauer stated she inquired with Brent Danielson of the Ada County Historic Preservation Commission when nominations for the Ada County Treasure Award would be accepted and he confirmed nominations are accepted any time. B. Bauer recommended nominating the Meridian Speedway for this year's Ada County Treasure Award but wanted to see if the Commissioners had other properties they would like to nominate. B. Bauer stated she is happy to do the nomination as an Ada County citizen but wondered if the Commission could provide a letter of support for the Speedway nomination.

P. Gittings made motion that the Meridian Historic Preservation Commission draft a letter in support of having the Meridian Speedway receive the Ada County Treasure Award nomination; seconded by D. Pitts and J. Keller

All ayes

Commission Feedback

B. Johnston agreed with B. Bauer's suggestion and thinks the Commission agrees so can draft a letter in support of nominating the Meridian Speedway for the Ada County Treasure Award.

P. Gittings inquired if more than one award is given or only one per year. *One for a person and one for a building/structure.*

OLD BUSINESS [ACTION ITEMS]

8. Discussion and Planning: May 2024 Preservation Month Activities

B. Johnston stated as part of the City's Unplug and Be Outside event (May 12 to May 18), the Commission can host walking tours using the newly created guides B. Bauer is creating. Next meeting can determine what day to put out and take down signs in front of historic buildings so people can do self-guided tours.

Commission Feedback

P. Gittings stated if the walking tour is held on May 18 it will coincide with the Meridian Main Street Market so definitely thinks May 18 is a good idea. *Host a tour from 10 to 1 or 10 to 2 and if enough interest could host a second tour.*

D. Pitts suggested scheduling one tour in the morning and one tour in the afternoon and if more people then can add additional tours as needed. D. Pitts inquired how the tours would be advertised. *Facebook, Instagram, and in Unplug and Be Outside materials.*

K. Freeze stated he is available to help.

NEXT MEETING: April 25, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

J. Keller made motion to adjourn, seconded by P. Gittings

All ayes

Meridian History Center Updates and Speedway Display

Bryan Cottle
History Center Digitization Technician
Meridian Library District
March 28, 2024



Meridian History Center

Digital Collection Websites (<https://historycenter.mld.org/>)

- 1950 Dairy Days Collection
- Girl Graduate Album
- Mayes Gray Collection
- Willett Family Photo Album
- Meridian Occident Club
- Meridian Police Department
- Pine Street School/Meridian Elementary
- Forthcoming
 - Meridian Library District (50th Anniversary)
 - Meridian Speedway Collection
 - Meridian Fire Department
 -Others will Follow



Digitize Family History

<https://www.mld.org/event/digitize-family-history-24100>

Home

Digitize Family History

APR Community
10 Wednesday, April 10, 2024
2024
WED 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Also Occurs On ▾



Program Type: [Build Your Skills](#), [Learn About It](#)

Age Group: [Adults](#), [Seniors](#)

Program Description

Event Details

Do you have old family photos that you want to preserve for future generations? Schedule an appointment with Meridian Library District staff at the Meridian History Center to digitize your old family photos with our large Epson Scanner or professional digitizing camera. 1 hour appointments are available from 1-4 p.m. We ask that you limit your photos or materials to 10-15 items.

Schedule an appointment at: <https://calendly.com/mld-programs/digitize-family-history>

If you would like to have your family photos archived in the Meridian History Center to mark your family's place in history, we will be accepting digital copies of Meridian based families.

Disclaimer(s)

We often take photographs during library events. Please let our photographer know if you do not want us to publish photos of your child.

Upcoming

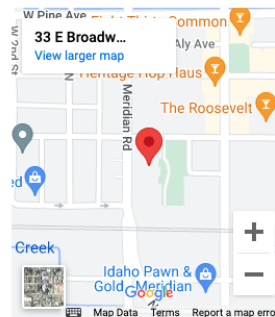
List

Month

Week

Day

Location Details



Meridian History Center

33 E Broadway Ave
Meridian, ID 83642

(208) 888-4451

See map: [Google Maps](#)

Contact Info

Email: history@mld.org

Phone Number: **(208) 888-4451**

Meridian History Center

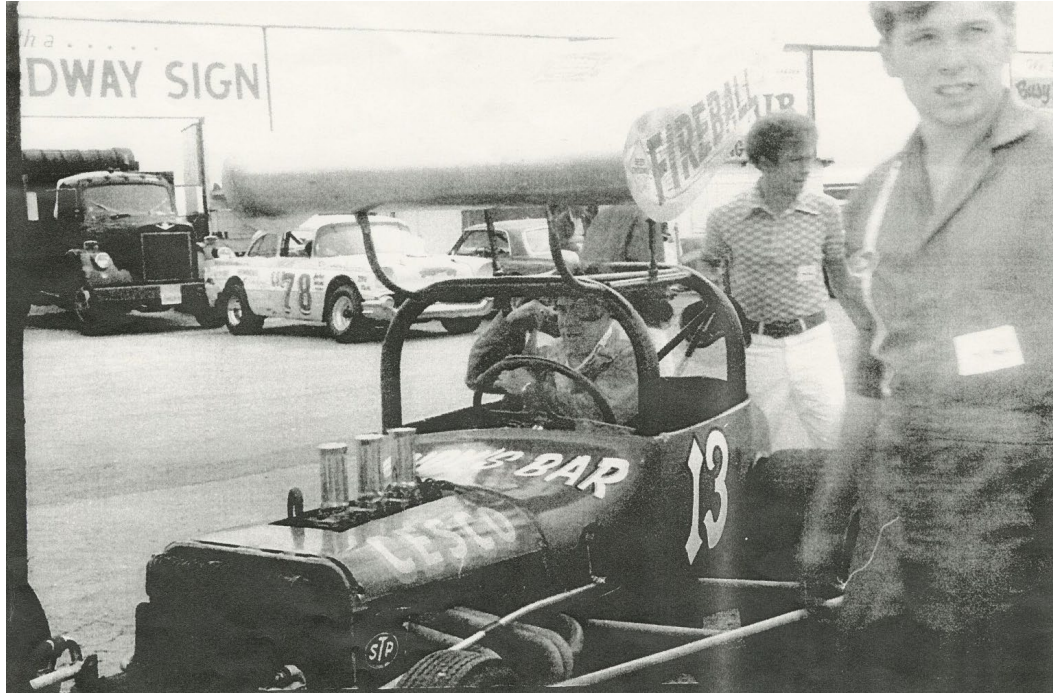


Self Guided Tours

Monday-Friday 10am-4pm

Meridian City Hall

Meridian Speedway & The History Center



Speedway Influence:

- 1) Occident Club/Library
- 2) Boy Scouts
- 3) The Police
- 4) Dairy
- 5) Families

Morrie Fuller & Sons-Speedway 1975

Idaho Historical Racing Society



-Preserving Idaho Racing History over 2 decades

-Large collection of historical photos (scrapbooks), trophies, racing car parts, helmets, programs etc

-A non-profit organization

-Partnership with MLD History Center for creation of a digital collection website on Meridian Speedway Material

Sierra Jackson #25



Cuddy Mountain Transportation
Kiwis Welding & Repair
Junkyard Jack Tools
Big Bite Excavation
Standard Construction
Idaho Independent Bank

