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Bechtol Planning & Development

Memorandum

To: Nome Planning Commission
Glenn Steckman, City Manager

From: Eileen R. Bechtol, City Planner, AICP

Date: November 10, 2020 Planning Commission Meeting

Subject: Historic Preservation Grants – 3rd Quarter

The attached grant reports were sent to the State Historic Preservation Office on October 26, 2020.

The grant reports have been added to the Planning Commission packet for informational purposes.

HPF Grant #: 19008
Project Name: King Island-East End Sign & Interpretive Panel
Reporting Period: 07/01/2020 – 09/30/2020

Describe the status of the project: Active—on revised schedule

Project only became active in late March, and has progressed little until meetings can be held, primarily with elders. Covid cases continue to rise in Nome.

Accomplishments for the reporting period.

I have located a book written by Little Sister Alice Sullivan, one of the Little Sisters of Jesus who lived with the King Islanders at Nome's East End. The book, with a few photos, describes some of life in the King Island Community at East End, and how it was destroyed.

Identify any problems or obstacles encountered and how they were or will be resolved.

In addition to the research described above, the primary suggestion/request I continue to receive is to wait until it is possible to meet with the KI Elders Committee in person. They are the group most vulnerable to COVID-19, and not available by email, so it may be awhile before these meetings can take place – and Covid cases in Nome have continued to rise.

Describe plans for the next reporting period.

Much of the project will be on hiatus for the next quarter, as I will be gone from Nome most of that time. Some work can still be accomplished by email. Hopefully Covid will be on the wane by mid-winter/early spring, so that I can meet with the elders I've been directed to contact.

Contact: *Provide name, title, and contact information of person who wrote the report and whom the State of Alaska Grants Administrator would contact for questions or further information.*

Sue Steinacher, Historic Preservation Commissioner and primary researcher-designer. Land line is 443-7673, cell is 434-1622, email is 502sue@gmail.com.

Proposed new timeline with benchmarks.

Please note that this must remain flexible as it is not yet known when it will be safe to meet with elders in person. Here is a schedule based on the full extension period.

October, November, December 2020

- Efforts to collect research materials, photos and prior interviews continued.
- Correspondence with key King Islanders and other knowledge bearers by phone and email

- Preparation of draft sign design and interpretive panel text and photos to share with elders when meetings again become possible.

January, February & March, 2021

- Hold meeting(s) with Elder Committee to explain the project, share already gathered materials and sketches, and seek their input and guidance.
- Enter in draft revisions and reviews by all groups involved.
- Work with King Island Council to decide who will function as a Review Committee
- Refine & finalize interpretive panel design and layout, with reviews, edits, and revisions as needed
 - Interpretive panel fabrication put out to bid by City
- Refine & finalize sign design, with reviews and authorization from the City, Rotary and King Island Council/Review Committee
 - Sign fabrication put out to bid by City

April, May & June, 2021

- Receipt of interpretive panel and road side sign by City, and stored until installation
- Determination and acquisition of base for interpretive panel.
- Completed site preparation, and completed installation of sign and interpretive panel.
- Public dedication and presentation by the King Island Community, City & Rotary.

HPF Grant #: 19004
Project Name: Nome Historic Preservation Plan, Phase 2
Reporting Period: 07/01/2020 – 09/30/2020

Describe the status of the project:

Active—on revised schedule

Projects have slowed considerably until meetings can be held, primarily with elders. Covid cases are on the rise in Nome.

Accomplishments for the reporting period.

The City of Nome has been given an extension from the State Historic Preservation Office due to disruptions from the corona virus.

During this reporting period the City and Gary Gillette, Architect, finalized a contract to write the Historic Preservation Plan.

Ms. Bechtol, City Planner, Glenn Steckman, City Manager, Christine Piscoya, Deputy City Clerk, Cheryl Thompson, Executive Assistant to the Manger and Nicki Crowe, Finance Director will also work on this grant. Their work will be used as in-kind funding for reporting purposes.

Identify any problems or obstacles encountered and how they were or will be resolved.

The COVID-19 pandemic has slowed work on this project. Very difficult to get Nome residents involved with public meetings over Zoom.

Describe plans for the next reporting period.

Please see the attached updated Appendix A: Scope of Work that reflects the timeline for completing this project.

Contact:

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