

**CRIPPLE CREEK HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2014  
MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call.**

Chairperson Petty called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M. Commissioners Petty, Maberry, McDonald, Goll and Veatch were present. Alternate Schechter was present and was seated. Commissioner Batson was absent. HP & Planning Coordinator Stockton was present.

**2. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on January 9, 2014.**

Maberry moved to approve the minutes as written, Veatch seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

**3. Review of Sign Permit Request for Two Signs: A Freestanding Sign and an Electronic Sign at 119 Carbonate Street, Wildwood Casino, Applicant.**

Staff stated that the Applicant has requested a Sign Permit to cover two signs at the Wildwood Casino which will be presented separately as follows:

1) A freestanding sign with the previously approved Wildwood Casino logo and also the logos of several outlets within the casino: Staff stated that the review of the sign permit is to determine if the request is compatible with the historic character of the City. Audrea Brickell, Operations Administrative Manager, represented the Applicant stating that the current signs that are attached to the rotunda section of the casino would be removed in order to make room for an electronic message center in that location. The freestanding sign will consist of a 70 sf board sign of the Wildwood Casino logo with a frame around it and 36 sf of board signs on the brick pedestal with the logos of the outlets inside the casino. The signs will not have internal illumination. Since these logos had been approved in 2012, the HPC agreed that this sign would be compatible with the historic character of the City. **Public Comment:** **Kathy Reynolds** questioned the type of lighting for the sign and whether all the logos have been approved. Applicant stated that the lighting will be from the ground directly onto the sign not towards traffic. Motion was made by McDonald to approve the freestanding Wildwood sign upon staff approval of sign and frame, seconded by Goll, and passed 6-0.

**Commissioner Grainger arrived at 5:20 P.M.**

2) An electronic message center sign up to 120 sf: Staff stated that electronic signs are permitted in the new Development Code but only 10 sf. window signs. At this meeting, the HPC will determine the historic compatibility of the request. Applicant stated that this sign would replace the signs currently located on the top of the front rotunda and would cover a smaller area and give a clean, attractive look to the casino. City and community events would be promoted on the sign also. The Applicant is willing to work with anyone after the sign is installed if there are issues with brightness. The direction of the sign will be mainly towards the north parking area with an effort to minimize any effect to neighbors. **Public Comment:** Staff distributed an email opposing the request from **Lawrence Myers**, 125 Bison Street. **Susan Ward** stated that her main concern is the historical part of this request; that there is no place in our town for an electronic sign due to inconsistency with historical designation. **Cathy Johnson**, 121 Silver Street, stated that she is opposed to this request as the sign is visible from her home.

In a door-to-door survey that she did in the community, everyone was against the proposed electronic sign. **Kathy Reynolds**, Cripple Creek resident and Director of the Cripple Creek District Museum, stated that she was not speaking on behalf of the museum board or staff when she says that electronic signs present a precarious dilemma in retaining historic designation. In addition, she stated that it is very important to retain the historic authenticity of Cripple Creek and that the electronic sign on the Double Eagle is a distraction. Staff stated that the electronic sign at the Double Eagle was approved by a specific variance request and was not intended to set a precedent for any other similar sign requests in the future. After much discussion and acknowledged disagreement on the HPC, a motion to deny the request for the electronic sign in this zone due to incompatibility with the historic character of the City was made by Veatch, seconded by McDonald, and passed 4-2, with Goll abstaining; Grainger and Maberry opposed.

**4. Session Proposal for 2015 CPI Saving Places Conference, Steve Veatch.**

Veatch stated that he would like to submit a session proposal to Colorado Preservation, Inc. for the 2015 CPI Saving Places Conference. Subjects would include:

- Pinnacle Park Bear Cave reconstruction project
- Cataloging of the mineral collection at the Cripple Creek District Museum
- Highlighting past accomplishments of the Cripple Creek HPC last 2-3 years – restoration of historic homes

McDonald volunteered to assist him. Process for submittal is on the CPI website; any costs associated will be researched. HPC agreed that this should be pursued. **Public comment:** Kathy Reynolds stated that this idea is timely because History Colorado is currently enabling the assessment and repair of the major museum buildings.

**5. Reports from Attendees of 2014 CPI Saving Places Conference.**

Staff stated that this year's conference was well attended despite the sub-zero weather and was an inspiration to further historic preservation efforts. The Camp Amache project is progressing with the reconstruction of a guard tower and water tower. Petty discussed the various sessions she attended: photographing historic sites with the recommendation to use old-fashioned film photos/negatives for more reliable, long-lasting archives; more educational outreach to the public; reuse/retrofit for restored historic structures; 3-d printers to replicate small historic architectural features; and sympathetic additions to historic structures. She has websites with information on these topics if anyone is interested in more details.

**6. Commission Comment.**

**Resignation of Commissioner Goll:** Chairperson read letter of resignation from Bob Goll who is moving to Texas for health reasons. Petty and Stockton presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his service on the Historic Preservation Commission from 2007 to 2014. HPC thanked him and wished him well in his new home.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM.