

HAILEY ARTS & HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

September 12, 2023 at 3:30 PM

To be held at Hailey City Hall and virtually via GoTo Meeting

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/686570877>

You can also dial in using your phone.

(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly).

United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

One-touch: tel:+18722403212,,686570877#

Access Code: 686-570-877

Call to Order

New Business

1. History Hotline
 - Status report
 - 3 more story slots
 - Recording 9/11-15
 - Electrical work needs to be completed by the 30th
2. Sage School Mural
 - Update
 - Call to Commissioners and artists to participate

Old Business, In-Progress & Status Reports

1. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from August 8, 2023 -- **Action Item**

Possible Discussion Topics for next Agenda

- a. Reschedule October meeting

MEETING MINUTES

HAILEY ARTS & HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

August 8, 2023 at 3:30 PM

To be held at Hailey City Hall and virtually via GoTo Meeting

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/686570877>

You can also dial in using your phone.

(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly).

United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

One-touch: tel:+18722403212,,686570877#

Access Code: 686-570-877

Present: Joan Davies, Michele Johnson, Kristin Anderson, Toni Whittington, Herbert Romero **Staff:** Cece Osborn

3:30pm— Johnson calls the meeting to order

New Business

1. History Hotline

- Status report
 - Tentative recording date: August 22nd
- Consider reallocating budget
 - Voluntary stipend for storytellers - **Action Item**
 - CO: Tony Evans, who we have recruited to tell a story about local indigenous peoples, has requested a small stipend to acknowledge and respect his time and profession. As Staff, I am bringing forth this discussion as an opportunity to reallocate monies from the budget to allow for storyteller stipends—as well as translation services.
 - HR expresses his availability and intention to complete the written and spoken Spanish translation. CO apologizes for the misunderstanding.
 - CW: This is a community project, all but one storyteller is ok with volunteering. Can you confirm, are any of the other storytellers asking for money?
 - CO: No one else requested payment, however Tony Evans (TE) expressed that he reached out to others and they would also like stipends.
 - HR: The community members who I have reached out to do not expect to be paid, being recognized and heard is enough for them. This project is an honor and opportunity to share their stories.
 - KA: TE is a professional writer, which distinguishes him from the other storytellers, maybe he should be paid for his services.
 - TW: Agrees that TE might be an exception because he is a professional writer.
 - CO: We could make the stipend voluntary.
 - MJ: This project is an opportunity for people to share their stories, putting a monetary amount on the story is insulting.
 - HR: It's not about the budget, it's about the intention of storytelling.
 - Th Commission discusses opportunities to read pre-written copy and reach out to contacts of the Shoshone-Bannock tribes.

4:10pm – CW motions not to change the budget, TW seconds it; JD, MJ, KA, HR vote in favor; TW abstains
The Commission instructs Cece on how to communicate with TE

2. Community Engagement Plans

- Update from the subcommittee
 - MJ: No good weekend to do it
 - KA: let's aim for next spring
 - Commission discusses ideas for next spring: not too big nor challenging of an event, an easy lift; art walk through the community; passport with tor and prizes; food and music would make the event more social; tie in local business owners

Old Business, In-Progress & Status Reports

1. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2023 -- **Action Item**

4:23 pm – Add Carol to the list of present Commissioners; TW motions to approve, JD seconds; all in favor

3:30pm— Adjourn

08-09-23

Tony T. Evans
PO Box 4372
Ketchum, ID
83340

Hailey Arts and Historic Preservation Commission
Hailey, ID
83333

Dear HAHP Commissioners,

I regret not making it to your Tuesday meeting, as I had planned. Work got in the way. Cece Osborne informed me of the Commission's vote to not support a stipend to those providing stories for the crosswalk project. This is a great project and I want to congratulate you on it, and all the other great work you commission for the city.

As you know, I brought up the need to provide a stipend for the writers and storytellers at the heart of the project. I want to clarify something: I was not simply asking for a paycheck for myself. Nor was I asking that you only amend your budget for this project for the others. I was advocating for a change in HAHPC policy moving forward that would be in keeping with your mission to "ensure that the arts and history are valued as an integral part of Hailey and to enhance the culture of the Hailey community by providing leadership, advocacy and support for the arts and history."

I want to explain why it is important for anyone taking the time to plan, write, and edit personal or historical material for public purpose and the enrichment of our community, to be compensated for their efforts. This kind of work should be valued no less than the design, construction and robotics that are also involved in this project. Unfortunately it has become typical to expect stories (and sometimes our personal images) for free, even when they are used in advertising. This follows a trend in our society that undervalues the work of writers and the humanities in general. For this particular project, the storytellers and writers are the centerpiece, not an accessory. I have heard it said that inviting someone to participate bestows honor upon them. While this might be true, not paying them a small amount for their efforts implies a kind of thinking could undermine the courage and faith required of writers to develop their talents, especially young writers.

I've written 3,000 articles now and a few books, and it all started with a commitment to our community. But I still remember the first article I sold to The Taos News for \$35 check, and the excitement and vulnerability I felt upon its publication. That paycheck paid far more in dividends over time. I do feel honored to do the work I do, but it has taken real sacrifice. I would encourage you to support our local storytellers and writers with payments that would help them feel the dignity and respect that they deserve. It could go a long way.

I want to express my gratitude to the Commission for the appreciations that were conveyed to me for the work I do in the valley. But please remember that being appreciated and being valued are two different things. Being paid for our stories bestows respect, and over time could help inspire the commitment and dedication required of a younger generation to explore careers in the literary arts. The value of physical art pieces can be balanced with the value and power of words, and our basic human need for stories.

For now, I am going to respectfully decline your invitation to participate in your worthwhile project, and I wish you the best in your efforts. You will find good historical material relating to the Indigenous history of this area in my book, "A History of Indians in the Sun Valley Area," and in many articles I have written in the Idaho Mountain Express archives on the topic.

You would be well advised to also seek the input and support of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes at the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, as I have over the years. After all, we all live in their territory, and in these times, it is highly recommended to let Native people tell their own stories.

Sincerely,
Tony Tekaroniake Evans