

Sheridan Historical Society Trustee Meeting Tuesday at 5:30 PM March 25, 2025

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Dallas in the "I Dream" room in the Sheridan Recreation Center at 3325 W. Oxford Avenue at 5:30 pm

Board members present: Ernie Camacho, Dallas Hall, Andrew Rogge, and Roger Rowland. There were no guests.

A motion was made by Ernie and seconded by Andrew to approve the minutes of January 28, 2025. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

Roger reported the current balance is \$5,329.98. A motion was made by Andrew and seconded by Dallas to accept the report. The motion passed.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Old Business

There has been an update to the Fort Logan Cemetery expansion project. Several neighbors in the Pinehurst Estates subdivision in Denver had expressed opposition to the placement of the columbarium in the expansion. The proposed columbarium had been described as a "nine foot tall and half mile long wall on the property's south side near their homes." They argued the columbarium would obstruct their view and reduce their property values. The Veteran's Administration subsequently decided to relocate the proposed columbarium to the interior of the cemetery.

Roger has contacted Nicole Grommeck, the principal at Alice Terry Elementary School. He will schedule an appointment with her about our history project for Alice Terry.

The fire department journals have been uploaded and are available on the historical society website. Two of the journals are directly located within our website domain. The third journal was too large. Roger established a Drop Box account for the society and uploaded that journal to

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Drop Box. He then created a shareable link on our website. The file will not open but will be downloaded instead. It can then be opened on the local computer.

Andrew reported the second phase of the grant for the "Sheridan Housing Needs Assessment 2025" begins this summer. A handout of the HB24-1313 Analysis Map was provided to the board. It highlights the affected areas along South Santa Fe Drive and South Federal Boulevard. The city is already remarkably close to compliance. The "Key Findings" from the first phase were provided to the board. The initial report has already been presented to the city council.

The key findings include the following.

- 1. The city has seen relatively slow/no growth in recent years.
- 2. Household incomes are lower than peer communities, but have been increasing at faster rates.
- 3. Nearly 100% In-communing disconnect between local jobs and low-income residents.
- 4. Sheridan is still a relatively affordable place to live.
- 5. Many existing residents are cost burdened or are vulnerable to displacement that could be caused by growing marked pressures.
- 6. Housing needs.

Auto Zone has a permit pending for the property located at 4095 S. Federal Boulevard. A PUD had already been approved by the city for the property. The front side will face South Federal Boulevard. The property is currently vacant but once there was a Shamrock Gas Station and repair garage located on that northwest corner of Federal and Oxford.

New Business

Rob Hanna, the Executive Director for South Suburban resigned on February 5, 2025. The resignation was unexpected and due to health reasons. He had held the position since August of 2015.

The city has hired new attorneys. The firm of Wilson, Williams, Fellman, and Dittman was retained. The lead attorney will be Betsy Stewart a senior associate with the firm. They replaced the firm of Hayashi & Macsalka, LLC. Mary Macsalka had been representing the firm at city council meetings recently. William "Bill" Hayashi had been their attorney for the city and is wanting to retire. Hayashi had been the city attorney since January 2, 2008. The city's prosecuting attorney Andy Asumus from the Asumus Law Firm PC remains the same.

The municipal court has changed their days of operation. The city recently named a new municipal judge Tiffany Sorice. The court will now be held on the first and third Fridays of the month during the day. This represents a major change as the Thursday evening municipal court sessions had been held since 1970.

The school board has approved a transition of grades for Alice Terry Elementary School from K-2 to K-5. There will be a three-year phase in with grade three beginning with the 2025 - 2026 school year. Grade four will follow in 2026 - 2027 with grade five completing the transition in the 2027 - 2028 school year. Grades three through five had been originally transferred to Fort Logan Northgate in 2015 when it was opened as a new school facility.

It was noted that Tom Clark of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce passed away on March 19, 2025 at age 75. He led the chamber for almost 15 years before retiring in 2017.

Brian Vogt, the CEO of the Denver Botanic Gardens passed away March 25, 2025 at 66 years old from cancer. He had been the Botanic Gardens CEO for 18 years. Brian was the son of Arapahoe County Sheriff Roy Vogt. Roy Vogt was the Arapahoe County Sheriff from 1963 - 1973. Brian is survived by his sister Teri Bray.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Submitted by Roger Rowland Secretary/Treasurer

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