MINUTES
Cheney Historic Preservation Commission
July 1, 2004

Commissioners Attending: Bettye Hull, Nikki Gamon, Steve Emerson and Chris Stewart.

Commissioners Absent: Charles Mutschler, Martin Seedorf and Aimee Flinn.

Staff Attending: Glenn Scholten and Susan Beeman.

Councilpersons Attending: None.

Call to Order: Vice-Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Gamon, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2004 Regular Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission as distributed. Motion carried.

Citizen Participation: None.

Old Business: Grant Project Progress Report. Ms. Beeman reported on the database update project. There is still some mapping to do, and building permit files to be flagged. The photography is entirely finished, and all the inventory forms have been entered into the database.

Ms. Beeman reported on quotations for various sizes of bronze markers and interpretive plaques, and Central Cheney Historic District signage was discussed. A sign of 24" x 24" will cost roughly $960, and can contain approximately one character per square inch, or 568 characters. Commissioner Hull suggested that we look into prices and longevity of steel signs as an alternative to bronze, to see if that might be a more economical material to work with. Commissioner Emerson suggested that we need to decide what we want to say, and the location of the interpretive signs, before we settle on a style. Commissioner Stewart noted that we may need to look at implementing the signage in stages, using our current grant funds to place the first sign or signs, but with the idea of adding additional markers at other locations as we are able. Commissioner Emerson thought the following divisions would be logical:

1. Central Downtown – commercial properties
2. Residential Areas – between downtown and campus
3. Church & Education buildings
4. Industrial Areas – Railroad & mill

It was decided that all members of the Commission will look at the text over the next week or so, and we will begin developing the story to be told on the interpretive signs, according to the above categories. Ms. Beeman will check other sources and materials, and we will coordinate with Commissioner Emerson to identify the text for the interpretive signs.

New Business: Rodeo Days Parade. Ms. Beeman explained that we have agreed to provide a walking tour of the historic downtown on Saturday, July 10, beginning at 9:00 a.m. just prior to the

Rodeo Days parade. Commissioner Stewart agreed to help host the walking tour. Commissioner Hull's husband has entered a new semi truck in the parade, and has offered to allow the Commission to place a sign promoting Cheney history, the local register, or our walking tours. Commissioner Hull stated that we need to provide a description for the parade announcer of 25 words or less. Discussion followed. It was decided that Ms. Beeman will send out an email note tomorrow to coordinate ideas, and will check on cost of having signs printed. Commissioner Hull will finalize the descriptive text and submit it by the deadline on Saturday.

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Gamon reported that she has had a quilted wall hanging accepted into a juried quilt festival in Seattle for a show in August. Only 250 entries were selected out of nearly 650 submitted.

Commissioner Emerson reported on the search of the Steptoe battleground site, and Commissioner Stewart reported on her family history search in Camarillo, California.

Staff Reports:

Mr. Scholten reported that the Planning Commission is still considering the proposed Mixed Use ordinance. Commissioner Stewart asked if new and prospective property owners in the zone will be given copies of the design guidelines. She felt it was important to let people know of people know of restrictions which might be attached to commercial property. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Hull suggested that we ask realtors to spread the word that if buildings are over 50 years old, they may fall under design review restrictions and guidelines. Commissioner Stewart said that she had a concern that adoption of this ordinance might discourage purchasers because of the restrictions. Commissioner Gamon noted that, from a legal standpoint, the language is very general and subjective, and she had concerns about the design review committee being bogged down in disputes.

Commissioner Emerson described the process used in Spokane when property is put under a design review requirement. In that situation, the property owners must sign a management agreement to keep certain characteristics of their property intact, and they have to go before the design review committee to make any changes.

Chairman Hull stated that she has been the liaison from this commission to the Pathways Planning & Design Committee, but she is no longer able to participate in that group. Is anyone else interested? Mr. Scholten offered to confirm when the meetings are held and email the information to the Commission. In the meantime, Mr. Scholten offered to report back to the Commission, since he is a member of the Planning & Design Committee.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Commissioner Stewart made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Emerson. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hull adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Approved:

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Charles Mutschler, Chairman	Susan Beeman, Secretary