

*Historic Resource Task Force
Minutes
April 14, 2004
3:30 p.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room
City Hall*

Present:

Ingrid Smyer-Kelley
Winston Churchill Gooding
Mark Beliles
Douglas Day

Others Present:

Satyendra Singh Huja

Minutes:

Mr. Mark Beliles chaired the meeting. Mr. Huja informed the committee that City Council has appropriated \$5,000 to support the Historic Resources Task Force for the next year. It is not yet certain who will staff the task force. Most likely it will be Neighborhood Development Services or Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Huja also indicated that Blake Caravati would like to have a local historic marker honoring the 116th Regiment of the 29th Infantry Division, the men who took Omaha beach on D-Day. Mr. Douglas Day stated that he would work with Mr. Caravati to work on the wording for the plaque.

Mr. Huja commented that he is ready to do the local marker for Inges Store on West Main Street.

Mr. Huja stated that he met with Mr. Coy Barefoot to discuss the possible creation of a historical museum in the old jail. There was a brief discussion of the museum idea. Mr. Day stated that the Historical Society has local museum items and artifacts, but they are very expensive to preserve and maintain. Ms. Smyer-Kelly commented that it would be nice to have a café or snack bar with the museum. She also commented that it should be a city museum.

Mr. Huja briefed the group on the progress of Court Square, indicating that the construction is moving forward and on schedule and hopes to have the project complete by August or sooner. The Task Force felt that there should be a dedication ceremony. There was a discussion of the Historic Board and the text on that board. Mr. Beliles will prepare the text within the next two weeks. Mr. Huja also commented that the old fountain on the corner of Market and 9th Streets will be relocated to court square, the cost will be \$37,000 for the renovation and relocation. Mr. Huja is looking into the available funding for the project. The old historical board has been moved to the Historical Society building; Mr. Day will explore the possibility of placing it permanently on this property, which will require BAR approval.