STATE OF MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Executive Order No. 18-2005

ESTABLISHING THE MONTANA HISTORIC AND CULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Whereas, Montana has a rich legacy of historic and cultural sites; and

Whereas, preserving our diverse histories and cultural expressions will benefit all Montanans, particularly future generations; and

Whereas, Montana's historic and cultural sites provide educational opportunities for Montanans and visitors; and

Whereas, heritage and culture contribute significantly to the quality of life and economy of the people of the state; and

Whereas, an inventory and report to the Governor and Legislature on historic and cultural sites and the role of preservation in Montana will contribute significantly to our quality of life and economic development; and

Whereas, Long Range Building Funds to support a Historic and Cultural Advisory Council have been appropriated by the 59th Legislature for the examination of state-owned historic and cultural sites; and

Whereas, the potential exists for financial support from non-state entities for the expansion of this study to include the examination and preservation of Montana's non-state public historic and cultural sites.

Now, therefore I, Brian Schweitzer, Governor of the State of Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the laws and Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby create the State Historic and Cultural Advisory Council.

I. Purpose

A. The State Historic and Cultural Advisory Council shall:

1. make recommendations to the Governor and the 2007 Legislature concerning the State of Montana's policy with respect to preservation of publicly owned historic buildings, including but not limited to:

    a. building use/ownership conversion options.
    b. potential funding for preservation efforts.
    c. public partnering opportunities with the private and non-profit sectors.

2. study the economic benefits of historic preservation, as well as policy initiatives in other states that have facilitated historic preservation of publicly owned historic structures.

3. solicit significant, meaningful input from the public and representatives of affected State and local government entities.

B. Recommendations from the Montana Historic and Cultural Advisory Council shall:

1. consider the financial and liability-related obligations placed upon the State of Montana.
2. maintain a preference for local control in decision-making concerning non-state public properties.
3. consider the values and needs of all Montanans.
4. be technically, legally, socially, and economically feasible to implement.

C. The Advisory Council may meet at locations throughout the State of Montana.

II. Composition

A. The Advisory Council shall consist of not more than 7 voting members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be the Lieutenant Governor, who shall chair the Advisory Council. Members will represent a variety of stakeholders, including, but not limited to private citizens, local government, and the preservation community. The names and addresses of members, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, are submitted by separate letter to the Secretary of State and the Department of Administration.

III. Administrative Support and Compensation

The Office of the Lt. Governor will provide administrative support to the Advisory Council. Council members shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed by the Department of Administration for reasonable travel expenses pursuant to sections 2-15-122(5) and 2-18-501 through 2-18-503, MCA.

III. Duration

The Council shall exist for a period of 18 months from the effective date of this Order unless extended by subsequent Executive Order.

GIVEN under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Montana this 15th day of August 2005.

BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor

Attest:

BRAD JOHNSON, Secretary of State