MINUTES

ASH Redesign History of ASH Work Group
Wednesday, July 15, 2020 • 1:00-2:00pm • Conference Call

Agenda
1. Welcome
2. Overview of what we’ve been working on
3. Progress on Interpretation Strategy
4. Discuss funding ideas
5. Close

Attendees
Bob Ward, Parker LaCombe, Sherley Spears, Francela Brazil Williams, Elizabeth Stauber, Sydney Harris, Mary Kahle, Jenna Cooper, Lewis Charlton, Rebecca Elder

Minutes
Welcome
A member welcomed the group and thanked them for adjusting the monthly meeting.

Overview of what we’ve been working on
A chair reviewed the Google doc. An introduction has been added. A member has expanded the collections management and preservation section. Discussed primary needs assessment recommendations. The group discussed how to provide specifications for software recommendations without identifying an individual software. The group agreed that making recommendations based on specifications would be ideal, focusing on what is critical for archiving. Asked the group to review and provide feedback for finalization. It was suggested to have this section emailed to the group for feedback. The group discussed adding additional detail to the introduction that is specific to ASH and the history of the campus. A member suggested also including any information that relates to local leadership.

Progress on Interpretation Strategy
Two members reviewed the interpretation strategy section, which will be added to the Google doc. Primary focus was to get an outline and establish scope of interpretation. They would like some additional information from the archeological findings. The group discussed whether there was any type of budget projections. A member reviewed current efforts around historical preservation and budget, however there is concern about obtaining any additional funding at this time. It was suggested to focus on items that would be most cost effective at this time. The members who worked on this section will reevaluate the suggestions based on this information. They will attempt to include a time frame and budget. It was suggested that in order to provide an accurate interpretation it is imperative to have a comprehensive history. A member stated that the cultural group is still working on the history and budget, they have a timeline. A member reinforced the suggestion of partnering with local colleges and universities. The group agreed with this suggestion. The group will include this group as a list in the document along with the department that would support this kind of work. A member asked if there would be a website.
HHSC is working on a website at this time, it is in the formative stages. A member reviewed what the expectations are for the timeline of the website, where it will be located, and what will be included. There is also discussion about a possible podcast, but there is no additional information on that at this time. A member shared information provided from the “Voices of Central State” director, which could be utilized as an interpretation tool. Presenting member discussed the need to present the history in coordination with planned heritage goals of the city, county, neighborhoods, and state. The group discussed ensuring the information was accessible by everyone and that the language is user friendly regardless of previous exposure of knowledge. It was suggested that the interpretation section be presented as a phased approach. A member asked if a recommendation could be to have a project manager, the group agreed that would be reasonable to recommend.

Discuss funding ideas
The group discussed potential funding ideas throughout the meeting, including applying for grants and utilizing local colleges and universities with historical departments and students in need of internships. The group also discussed local organization and corporate sponsorships which have been utilized by other similar projects. A member also shared their group is working on community events to raise awareness and also hopefully raise funds. A member asked if local preservation organizations have been asked to be involved in this project.

Close
A member reviewed next steps:
   1) Combine interpretation strategies into the Google Doc
   2) Final review from the group on the Google Doc

Next meeting is August 5th and there is a scheduled meeting in September. Meetings will end after document is finalized.