



Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority

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***SEMESTER REPORT FOR THE FREE STATE PROVINCIAL
HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY (FSPHRA) – 1 APRIL
2014 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2014***

THE LEGISLATIVE MANDATE OF THE FSPHRA

- ✓ Advise the MEC on implementation of National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), or relevant provincial or municipal legislation;
- ✓ Establish policy, objectives and strategic plans for heritage resources management in the province;
- ✓ Promote systematic identification, recording and assessment of heritage resources;
- ✓ Regularly inspect formally protected heritage sites;
- ✓ Maintain data bases of declared heritage sites;
- ✓ Notify the SAHRA of Grade I sites and nominate them for possible declaration;
- ✓ Enhance public awareness on management and protection of heritage sites/places of heritage value;
- ✓ Maintain list of conservative bodies which have registered their interest in geographical area or category of heritage resources;

- ✓ Determine competence of local authorities to manage heritage resources;
- ✓ Assist, coordinate and monitor performance of local authorities in terms of heritage resources and management functions;
- ✓ Provide for areas of responsibility when local authority does not have competence capacity to perform function;
- ✓ Identification of management of heritage sites, declared as provincial heritage sites (section 27);
- ✓ Identification and designation of protected areas, surrounding province heritage sites, archaeological and paleontological sites or meteorite (section 28);
- ✓ Provisional protection for two years of heritage resources;
- ✓ Compilation and maintenance of heritage register of provincial heritage resources, based on inventories submitted by planning authority (section 30);
- ✓ Designation of heritage areas (where planning authority is unwilling/unable to perform such functions (section 31);
- ✓ Consideration of applications for alteration and demolition of structures older than sixty years (section 34);
- ✓ Protection of archaeological and paleontological sites and material (section 35);
- ✓ Conservation of graves of victims of conflict and other culturally significant graves (section 36);
- ✓ Consideration of environmental and heritage impact assessment of developments affecting heritage resources (section 38);
- ✓ Promote research on heritage resources;
- ✓ Publish information on heritage resources;
- ✓ Inspect or document heritage resources;

The following people comprise of the Council:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Status</i>
Dr CM Twala	Chairperson
Mr A Roodt	Member
Ms M Botes	Member
Mrs MV Sehlabo	Member
Adv. T Mokoena	Member

According to the Memorandum of Understanding entered into by the Department of Sport Arts Culture and Recreation (DSACR) and the Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (FSPHRA); section 9 – Conditions – states that:

- The Council must furnish progress reports on a quarterly basis towards meeting the targets as set out in the annual plan
- The Council must submit quarterly expenditure reports to the Head of Department to ascertain whether it complies with the conditions and formalities of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999).

It is against this background that the Council reports on its progress.

SOME OF THE FSPHRA'S HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE PERIOD UNDER DISCUSSION

In the first semester of the financial year, the FSPHRA received an amount of R250 000 which was used accordingly in carrying out most of its functions and projects. A breakdown of this will be given throughout the report.

▪ *Nomination of heritage sites in Free State*

In terms of section 27(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), the FSPHRA is entrusted to identify provincial heritage sites which have special qualities which make them significant in the context of the province or a region in terms of the heritage assessment criteria set out in section 3(2) and prescribed under section 6(1) and (2) and must investigate the desirability of their declaration as a provincial heritage site. The FSPHRA in collaboration with the DSACR plan to declare the following nominated sites:

- Petrus Steyn train station
- Elandskop Hill “Koppie”
- Petrus Steyb grave (old grave site)

Research is still being conducted for the abovementioned sites so that they may be included with the six other nominated sites in one dossier:

- ✓ Fezile Dabi's grave in Parys.
- ✓ Johannes 'Rhyder' Mofokeng's grave in Edenburg.
- ✓ Wetsi's Cave in Qwaqwa.
- ✓ Mantsopa's Cave and grave in Ladybrand
- ✓ Namoha Battle Site in Qwaqwa.
- ✓ Steve Bogacu's grave in Bloemfontein.

SOME OF THE CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED BY THE FSPHRA

At the moment, FSPHRA receives administrative support from the Secretariat division of the DSACR; however, too much work needs to be carried out for only one person to see it through. It is recommended that there be an assistant for the Heritage Coordinator so that when ground work is being carried out, then there is someone in the office. At the moment, more site research and inspection has to be conducted, as well as creating better working relationships with municipalities in order to ensure that the PHRA's mandate is carried through; however, due to the shortage of staff, this becomes difficult to carry through.

THE COMPOSITION AND THE ROLE OF THE PERMIT COMMITTEE

The rationale behind the existence of the Permit Committee (PC)

In order for the FSPHRA to implement aspects of its legislative mandate effectively and subject to its voluminous work, a sub-committee known as the Permit Committee (PC) was instituted. In the appointment of this committee, members' expertise was considered. The term of this committee is dictated by that of Council; therefore when the Council's term was extended, the PC's term was also extended by Council.

The committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month, except in January due to the fact that some members may still be on holiday at that time. The main task of this committee is to assess and make recommendations on the approval or rejection of the applications made by the communities on the total demolition, partial demolition, landscaping, alteration, subdivision, departure, rezoning, excavation, renovation or restoration of the sites which are important to the heritage of the Free State Province – see section 34 of the NHRA. Members of this committee are remunerated as per meeting. At the moment, a general member of the PC receives R1 872.00 and the Chairperson receives R2 160.00. The Permit Committee comprises of the following members:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Status</i>
Ms. L Philip	Chairperson
Mr. MJ Serekoane	Member
Ms. S Tlhoaele	Member
Mr. JL du Preez	Member
Mr ME Masooa	Member

Highlights and activities of the Permit Committee

Permit Applications received

No	Reference	Site	Date received	Type	Name of applicant	Number	Verdict
90	1/452/14	Frankfort Magistrates Court and Offices	01.04.2014	Permit Extension	H. Olivier	051 444 4702	Approved
91	1/499/14	Bfn High Court	17.04.2014	Alteration and Restoration	A Roodt	051 406 2100	Approved
92	1/500/14	6 South Street	24.04.2014	Total Demolition	N Garrod	051 507 3003	Approved
93	1/501/14	Clarens Primary	25.04.2014	Partial demolition, alteration, restoration and landscaping	West Rand Heritage Consultants	082 334 7913	Approved

94	1/502/14	Hoffman Square	25.11.2013 Given new number on 25 April 2014	Permit renewal	G Wolvaardt	051 406 2550	Approved
95	1/503/14	SANBI	23.05.2014	Repairs and renovations	WSP Group Africa	051 447 1586	Approved
96	1/504/14	29 and 31 Parfitt Avenue	23.05.2014	Total demolition	A Roodt	051 406 2100	Approved on 08 July 2014
97	1/505/14	Kameeldoring draai	05.06.2014	Total demolition	NJ Vermeulen	082 893 4614	Approved
98	1/506/14	5 President Brand – Fire station	05.06.2014	Fencing	S Poken	051 405 8428	Approved
99	1/507/14	Avoca House	25.06.2014	Demolition of northern veranda	MA Martins	051 447 7880	Approved
100	1/508/14	Cnr Voortrekker & Market Square, Boshof	01.07.2014	Alteration	Tokologo Local Municipality	053 0360	Approved
101	1/509/14	109 Exton Road, Hilton	06.08.2014	Total demolition	W Joubert	0514440333	Approved
102	1/390/14	Rouxville Magistrate's Court	Received by L Philip	Alteration & restoration (Permit Renewal)	M Botha	0514478047	Approved
103	1/510/14	30 Stuart Street	Received by L Philip	Total demolition	SA Smuts	0586222200	Not approved

104	1/511/14	Wassa Spares	22.08.2014	Partial demolition	W van Zyl	0725103664	Not approved
105	1/512/14	Excelsoir FNB Bank	26.08.2014	Alteration	L Ndou	0118076121	Approved
106	S-38-1/513/14	CUT – Welkom campus	28.08.2014	New development	D Ogden	0118083042	Approved
107	1/514/14	Clydesdale North substation	01.09.2014	Total demolition	Eskom holdings	0514045031	Approved
108	1/515/14	11 & 13 First Street, Arboteum	08.09.2014	Total demolition	Herberg Trust	0515225050	Approved
109	1/516/14	Cnr. President Brand & St. George	18.08.2014	Alteration and landscaping	Keolebogile Consortium cc	0711535539	Not approved
110	1/517/14	First Raadsaal and Wagon Museum 95 St George Street	08.09.2014	Affixing security gate	National Museum	0514476909	Approved
111	1/518/14	National Museum 36 Aliwal Street, Bloemfontein	08.09.2014	Fencing	National Museums	051 447 9609	Approved

Total Number of applications received: 22

Approved: 19

Pending: 0

Referred to SAHRA: 0

Halted projects: 0

PHRA PROJECTS

Advocacy workshops

In light of the fact that the FSPHRA does not get enough support around municipalities in Free State, with regards to conservation of heritage sites as well as their declaration, the workshops have become priority. In the past, workshops had targeted young people, mostly in high schools as part of heritage awareness; however, it has become evident that municipalities need such a workshop.

As part of FSPHRAs mandate to enhance public awareness on management and protection of heritage sites/places of heritage value, the municipalities have been consulted. At the moment, municipalities that have been consulted are Moqhaka, Mangaung and Maluti-A-Phofung.

Indoni – Basotho Cultural School



In July 2014, the FSPHRA was invited to present at the Annual Indoni Cultural School camp. Presentations were held at Basotho Cultural Village and learners were given a chance to learn more about the Basotho culture. FSPHRA emphasised their work as Heritage Free State and also spoke about the heritage wealth in Free State. Other topics dealt with were:

- What heritage is
- It's importance thereof
- Important heritage sites in Free State
- Correcting the imbalances of the past

At PHRA advocacy workshops, learners are normally given a platform to express what they think Heritage entails and how this definition affects them as young people; thus promoting social cohesion.

CONCLUSION

The FSPHRA is honoured to report that this has been a very successful 6 months. The good working relationship between FSPHRA and the DSACR is highly commendable. Furthermore, it

should be noted that the increase for more attention by the heritage activists has brought about many challenges for the FSPHRA. Whilst other demands are obviously related to resources, some emerging societal needs related to knowledge, information, advice and general support. These have placed immense pressure on the FSPHRA to meet the needs that are genuine. The increased expectations from the communities to protect and preserve what is of heritage significance have had a knock of the operational resources of the entity.