

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES

January 26, 2011

City Hall Council Chambers
313 Court Streets
The Dalles, OR 97058
Conducted in a handicap accessible room.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gleason called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Eric Gleason
Bob McNary
Pat Smith
Dennis Davis

The following Commissioners were absent: Dixie Parker

Staff present: Dawn Hert, Associate Planner
Carolyn Wood, City Councilor
Brenda Green, Admin. Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Smith moved to approve the agenda as submitted. McNary seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously; Parker absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Smith pointed out that on page four, paragraph three it should read Chair Gleason.

McNary moved to approve the minutes of November 17, 2011 as modified. Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously; Parker absent.

2011 Goal Setting

In regards to the short term goals, Associate Planner Hert shared that RARE Planner Gilbertson was currently working on the Vision Action Plan which will support the Main Street Program, identified in goal number one.

During the discussion about goal number five; researching grant opportunities to expand City's resources, the Commission decided to add "historic" before resources and to combine the goal with goal number thirteen which discusses designating other qualified areas as national historic districts.

The Commission discussed goal number seven; pursuing local landmark status for the Lewis and Clark Memorial. Chair Gleason stressed that he would like to see the goal more actively pursued so that the

memorial can get protected as soon as possible.

In regards to First Street; Chair Gleason stated that the survey had been done and that the next step was testing to find out what was in the subsurface. He added that they had started to do some archaeological testing behind 210 First Street as part of the redevelopment of the area. Gleason explained that the area used to be known as China town and that some of the items that have been found include Chinese artifacts such as; opium pipe fragments, and soy sauce jars from the late 1800s to early 1900s. Due to the amount of items found in the small test area, Gleason acknowledged that it's possible that it will become a very large project.

Goal number twelve; completion of the monument in Pioneer Cemetery was able to be deleted because the monument is now complete. Associate Planner Hert announced that the Columbia Gorge Genealogy Society plans to formally donate the monument to the City of The Dalles.

Councilor Wood felt that in order to explain why these goals are important and why they are on the list, each time one of these items is discussed it should be prefaced with the phrase "to further enhance the historic character of The Dalles..."

Commissioner McNary emphasized that the goals they were setting all relate to preserving the history of The Dalles and that preserving that history is the job of the Historic Landmarks Commission.

Moving on to Long Term Goals, Associate Planner Hert shared that she is looking into the possibility of a grant for re-doing the windows at City Hall. She suggested the possibility of working in a class to go with the restoration project.

Regarding Historic Open Houses, Associate Planner Hert stated that she would verify if commercial buildings were still required to have open houses. She pointed out that even if it is not a requirement it would be a good idea to continue to encourage them.

The Commissioners decided that goal number seven regarding Lewis and Clark Rock Fort should be moved up to a short term goal considering that a Request for Proposals had been issued. Associate Planner Hert shared that one proposal had been received and that a decision would be being made by February 7, 2011.

The final long term goal; updating historic inventories was discussed as a project to possibly look into more. Associate Planner Hert pointed out that Scott Gayer had asked that the name on his building at 300 E 2nd St be corrected to the Citizen's National Bank. Chair Gleason added that the name on his building at 201 First Street also should be updated. According to Gleason it is listed on the National Registry as the Chew Kee & Co. building but actually that building is the one to the East. Gleason stated that his building was actually called something similar to the Wing High Lo building.

There was a general discussion about the amount of laundries that were in the area near 201 First Street. Gleason pointed out that the Model Laundry, in what is now known as the blue building, used to advertise "all white help", no Chinese. Commissioner Smith added "and ladies upstairs".

Councilor Wood shared that Sandy Bissett and several others were working out at the Discovery Center Library to catalog everything. Associate Planner Hert asked if Jim Johnson was one of those working there. Wood responded no, he was the custodian of the Pioneer Pictures before they went to the Discover Center. She also stated that those were almost completely digitalized the photos.

PIONEER CEMETERY DISCUSSION:

Associate Planner Hert shared that the four rolls of fencing had been picked up and delivered to City Hall by Bob & Ginny McNary. She stated that the plan is to have a work party after the weather changes.

Commissioner McNary suggested that a possible way to obtain labor is to use Mid-Columbia Council of Government's program (MCCOG) that provides reimbursement for certain labor jobs. He pointed out that the preparation of the cemetery for the fencing would be a possible fit. Associate Planner Hert said she would talk to City Manager Young about it.

Associate Planner Hert updated the Commission on her work with Dan Spatz to obtain an easement from the college. She shared that the estimate from the surveyor for the easement to be drawn up came back far more than what had been anticipated. Consequently she is working with Director Durow and City Attorney Parker to see if a less formal agreement can be put together.

Commissioner McNary brought up a suggestion that plastic flowers being prohibited from the historic cemetery. After a general discussion in which the Commissioners agreed that they did not like them, they felt that a gentle way to get the message across would be to put up a non-obtrusive sign that read "To further enhance the historic character of the cemetery, artificial flowers are discouraged".

COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS:

Associate Planner Hert shared that digitalizing the historic photos owned by The City is a project that she is continuing to work on.

In regards to the Klindt's Annex building, Associate Planner Hert reported that she had talked with Mid-Columbia Building Codes and that they apologized for not catching that it was a historic building, explaining that the requested modifications were all interior. Hert asked the Commissioners what they would like to do.

Councilor Wood pointed out that when the application was brought before City Council she specifically questioned if there should be any requirements due to its historic nature, and City Council chose to not give any specific requirements to the buyer.

Chair Gleason felt that the project was done and that they did not remove anything that was historic. He also pointed out that they tried to blend the modifications that they made. Councilor Wood agreed that the building looked consistent.

It was agreed that the overall feeling was to accept the changes they made and not pursue any additional information or requirements.

Commissioner Smith shared that it looked like work was being done on the house owned by Diego Leon on West 6th Street. Associate Planner Hert stated she would look into it.

Commissioner Davis reported that he had talked with Jerry Tanquist about the possibility of him having pictures of any original signs on the old railroad depot building that Curtis Baker is currently doing renovations to. Mr. Tanquist did not have any pictures.

Commissioner Davis informed the Commission that the Fort Dalles Museum Foundation had a new member; Architect David Bearss.

Commissioner McNary wondered if there was a plan for the historic house that burned at 404 W 4th Street. Associate Planner Hert stated that the home was owned by Romul Grivov, owner of Romul's Restaurant. She had not heard what their plans were but stated that she would look into it.

Commissioner Davis shared that he had submitted a nomination letter for the work that had been done on the windows at the Fort Dalles Museum by Amy Auley. He hoped that if she received the award, it would also bring additional recognition to the museum.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Submitted by Brenda Green, Administrative Secretary



Eric Gleason, Chair
Historic Landmark Commission