

MINUTES OF THE DALLES  
HISTORICAL LANDMARKS COMMISSION

May 26, 1993  
Library Meeting Room

**ROLL CALL** - The following Commissioners were present: Eric Gleason, Elroy King, Pat May.

**ABSENT** -Dave Kammerman

**STAFF PRESENT** Scott Keillor, Gene Parker, Dan Durow, and Kay Prouty.

**MINUTES** Pat May moved to approve the minutes of the April 28th HLC meeting as presented. Gleason seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

King acknowledged the full term resignation of Commissioner Schafroth from the Historic Landmarks Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** King said the Doug Reid had requested to speak under public comment and seems to be late, so the Commission would hear Reid's request later in the meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**HLC 14-93 of The Dalles Mural Society** for the placement of two murals within The Dalles Commercial (National) Historic District. Murals would be placed on Craig Office Supply and Tony's Town & Country located at 323 East 2nd and 401 East 2nd Street.

King read the rules of a public hearing and asked if any commissioner wished to declare ex-parte contact or conflict of interest. Hearing none, the staff report was presented by Scott Keillor.

Keillor said that more information is needed to complete the application of the Mural Society, so the staff recommendation is for continuance of HLC 14-93 based on finding of fact. Keillor said a schematic drawing of what the mural would appear as should be presented for review. Also a diagram of the mounting structure is needed for the file.

King said that at the end of Finding A-1 of the Staff Report there appears to be a sentence missing.

Keillor apologized for the miss printing. Keillor said the portion missing states that staff does not recommend murals on historic contributing buildings.

Gleason asked if there was any precedent in the State for murals in Historic Districts.

Keillor said he had worked with SHPO with the last mural and SHPO only expressed using caution. He knew of no precedent.

King asked for questions of staff. Hearing none, he asked for proponents to speak.

### PROPONENTS

Webb Petersen 1527 East 18th

Webb said some time ago he was appointed by the Mayor to head up a Mural Commission. Webb said it has taken time to get the Commission organized but since getting established they have placed one mural in the downtown district and have heard some very positive comments. Webb said the purpose of the Mural Commission is to increase the traffic in the downtown area. Webb said the historic buildings of the community are not enough to create interest to invite visitors to come to our downtown. Webb said Crates Point development is 3 miles away and we need to draw the visitors into the downtown. They plan to have highly credited artists painting the murals for our community. Webb said they would like to get all of the citizens of the city who appreciate art and history involved in the Mural Society. A list has been presented by the Wasco County Historical Commission that suggest themes for the Murals. Webb named several of the members of the Mural Society from throughout the community. Webb said he was at the HLC meeting to answer any questions about the proposed murals that the Commission may wish to ask.

King asked Webb if he had the letters of consent from the property owners to place murals on the buildings.

Webb said that Mrs. Kortge who owns the building where Craigs Office Supply is located was present at the meeting. Webb said that Mrs. Kortge has no objections but her concerns are how the mural will be attached to the building. Webb said that Steve Bennett was getting the letter of consent from Tony Foote today.

King asked if the drawings were available for review by the Commission.

Webb said the drawings were not prepared at this time but that the first mural will depict "The Trade Center" with the Indians coming to trade here in The Dalles. Webb then read the list of suggested historic events presented to the Mural Society by the Wasco County Historic Commission for murals.

Webb said the next artist to paint a mural for The Dalles will be

Mr. Roger Cook, and the artist to follow him will be Robert Thomas. Both are highly recognized artists. Webb said Mr. Cook has been assigned the subject of the Trade Center for his painting, but Mr. Thomas has not been given a subject matter. Webb said there are other restoration projects being discussed by the Mural Society. Webb said the old murals on some of the Historic Buildings are planned to be restored.

Webb asked for the blessing of the Commission in placing the next two murals and said the intention of the Mural Society is to beautify and enrich the Community.

Gerald Richman 7440 Mill Creek

Gerald said he had designed the brackets for the mounting of the mural on the Davies Drug Store building for the safety of the building and mural with the least damage possible to the structure. Gerald said he will research the buildings where the next murals will be placed and design structures to hold the murals.

Eric asked if the murals were ever removed could the buildings be restored to look original?

Gerald said that repair to the brick and mortar can be done so the original appearance is restored. Gerald said he feels that murals are a great way to display history and would hope that the murals would never need to be removed.

Phillip Klindt from Klindts Book Store

Phillip said the downtown merchants are expressing interest in the murals to help the downtown be of viable interest to the tourists and the citizens of the community. Phillip said he did not feel murals should be placed on detailed historic buildings.

Alex King 500 1/2 Washington

Alex said he supports the murals. Alex said the well known western artists will help draw interest to the community and help The Dalles prosper.

**OPPONENTS** None

**COMMISSION DELIBERATION**

Pat said no amount of murals will help the downtown if the merchants don't take some pride in the appearance of the downtown. Pat said the town needs to clean up and look more presentable.

King asked how soon the murals will be in place.

Webb said the wish of the Mural Society is to have the murals in place for the 4th of July. Webb said that he has toured other communities that had a trashy appearance and the placement of murals seem to give the community pride and the areas were cleaned.

King asked if the design of the murals could be made one of the conditions to speed up the process for the Mural Society.

Keillor said the letters of written consent from the property owners and the content of the murals could be placed in the conditions. Keillor said the HLC could depend on the Mural Society for the content of the murals or hold a special meeting to review the drawings. Keillor asked if the Society can propose a master plan for the placement of future murals in the downtown district.

Gladys asked who insures the murals.

Webb said the Mural Society had not confronted that issue.

~~Jake Grossmiller~~ Jake said as a member of the Mural Society he would like to see the Society receive a list of the buildings throughout the City that would be useable for placement of murals. Jake said the Mural Society has been contacting families with past history in this community to create interest in assisting with the murals. Jake said he feels there needs to be cooperation between the Mural Society and the Historic Landmarks Commission.

Gleason said he would like to see a master plan presented and take care of the placement of murals all in one process rather than "piece meal".

Keillor suggested a meeting workshop between the two groups.

Gleason said we do not want to distract from the history of the community. We need to restore the buildings as well as paint murals.

Keillor recommended that the conditions of HLC #14-93 be reworded to read 1). Applicant must submit written consent from the property owners prior to installation. 2). Drop the first line requiring drawings up-front and add to the end of condition #2 "prior to installation".

King closed the hearing to the public.

Gleason made a motion to approve HLC #14-93 with the recommended

conditions stated by staff. May seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

#### Doug Reid 200 West 9th Street

Doug said he wished to asked the Commission for advise on remodeling of his home at 200 West 9th. Doug said the house was build by Ed and Mary Ball in 1923 and he would be interested in placing the home on the historic register in the future and did not want to do any remodeling that would jeopardize the chances of being on the register.

Gleason asked if Doug had any old pictures of the house.

Doug said he has no pictures and is not real familiar with the history of the house.

King asked if Doug had any plans to change the architecture of the house.

Doug said they would not change the architecture design but add to the same design by adding a sun porch on the rear of the house.

Gleason suggested that pictures and a letter be sent to SHPO for advise.

### DISCUSSION

#### Wasco County Historic Society update

Eric said the Rorick (Moody) House is being worked on under the SHPO grant that was received. Eric said work is being done to stabilize the house and to repaint. Eric said the floor in the bedroom has been removed and an archaeologic study was performed on the ground under the bedroom. Eric said pieces of glass and a few historic items were found. A bottle with the words "HHH Horse Medicine", buckles, buttons, ribbons and other small items were found. Eric said the items that were found will be cleaned and displayed at the Moody House. Eric said several documents were found in the walls of the house pertaining to the Rorick Family who had lived in the house for over 50 years.

#### Downtown Commercial Historic District

Keillor said the Commission should try to attend the City Council meeting on June 7th when the Downtown Commercial Historic District local designation is discussed by Council.

Gates House 511 Union

Keillor said that Francis Melero had sent a letter requesting the Commission recommend to the SHPO to update the status of the Gates House at 511 Union Street from a non-contributing to a historic contributing within the Downtown Historic District.

Keillor said a letter and photos could be sent to the SHPO in support of a formal recommendation for updating the Gates House.

Gleason said he would recommend the Gates House be placed as a Historic primary contributing building within the District based on Ned Gates and the architecture as one of The Dalles earliest homes.

Gleason made a motion to recommend to SHPO to change the Gates House at 511 Union from a non-contributing property to a contributing within the downtown Historic District. May seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

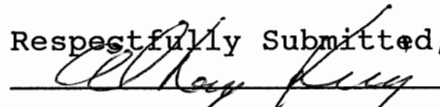
COMMISSION COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Eric said as a Commission they need to be interested in the downtown and work with the Mural Society to restore and beautify the community.

Keillor suggested that the Mural Society be invited to the next Historic Landmarks Commission meeting on June 23rd.

**ADJOURNMENT** Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

 Elroy King, Historic Landmarks Chairman

 Scott Keillor, Associate Planner