

MINUTES OF  
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

January 22, 1992  
City Council Chambers

**Roll Call** - The following Commissioners were present: Pat May, Elroy King, Colleen Schafroth, Dave Kammerman, Eric Gleason, Gladys Seufert, and Ken Farner.

**Staff present:** Scott Keillor, Dan Durow, and Kay Prouty.

**Guest:** John Will and Don Carpenter, Civic Renovation Committee

**Minutes** - Commissioner King noted the word dough misspelled on the second page of the November 20th minutes. Commissioner May moved to approve the minutes of the November 20th meeting as corrected and Commissioner Kammerman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion**

Scott Keillor said John Will and the Civic Renovation Committee deserve a hand for all the hard work that has been accomplished at the Civic Auditorium and especially all the hours and labor that was put into the new roof. Scott said several phases of renovation will follow, including electrical rewiring in the building to meet current coded. Scott also said there is an additional grant available through SHPO that the Historical Landmarks Commission should make application for to receive additional assistance.

John Will introduced Don Carpenter, Commissioner of the Civic Renovation Committee. Mr. Will said he and Don have been refinishing the doors of the Civic. Mr. Will said the doors are in bad shape and it is difficult to remove the old paint. He explained that years ago there was a milk paint that was very hard and this is the type of paint they are trying to get off the doors in preparation for repainting

**John Will, representing the Civic Auditorium Renovation Committee requesting approval to remove the old exterior fire escapes from the Civic Auditorium.**

Mr. Will explained the fire escapes on the east side of the building are unsafe because of loose bolts and flaking mortar. Mr. Will said a new interior fire escape in the north east corner of the ballroom is feasible and the work could be done by volunteers. This fire escape could also be used by the people using the lobby. John said the Fire Marshall has asked that the exterior fire escapes not be used. In order for the west and east fire escapes to meet fire code, they must be enclosed to prevent snow and ice build up on the ladders. The straight

ladder on the west end of the Civic near the alley is safe and must be left on the building. This ladder was used during the re-roofing and was quite safe. The fire escapes were not part of the original building and Mr. Will said attaching enclosures for the existing fire escapes would destroy the outside of the building.

Commissioner King asked if the fire escapes could easily be removed?

John Will said the fire escapes were installed in 1946 or 47 with bolts. The bolts have loosened, rusted, and the brick is flaking away. The fire escapes should come down quite easily.

Mr. Will explained that the fire escape on the east side of the building works with a counter balance. The escape goes down with the weight of the person using the ladder. Children may not be heavy enough to make the ladder work. Another problem would be the ice and snow causing the working parts to be frozen.

Mr. Will said Karl Cozad of the N.W.C. Parks and Recreation District wants assurance that the new fire escapes will be in place before the old exterior escapes are removed from the building.

Mr. Will said the new interior fire escapes would be complete before removal of the exterior escapes. The Civic Renovation Committee hopes to have a scrap dealer come and haul away the hot water radiators from the Civic as well as the fire escapes.

Pat May asked when the awning will be removed for the building.

John Will said they have a promise for the use of a vehicle and volunteers to remove the awning but the Committee felt the new roof was more important to be completed first.

Elroy King asked what the time schedule was for the construction of the new fire escapes.

Mr. Will had no time frame established.

Scott Keillor said we have a certification from the Fire Department declaring that the fire escapes are unsafe. He requested a copy of the report from the State Building codes, stating that the fire escapes should not be used to be placed in the Civic Auditorium file at the Planning Commission office.

John Will gave a special thanks to the volunteers who helped with the new roof and the businesses who donated other assistance. He noted the Pizzeria donated pizza for the roofing crew, Brown Roofing volunteered labor, and Thompson Sign placed a free sign explaining that the project was funded by a federal and state grant.

Elroy King said there should be a picture taken of the sign with Roger Thompson and an article about the renovation work to the Civic Auditorium in the paper with a special "thank-you" to all of those who helped.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORT**

##### **6th Street By-Pass Update**

Dan Durow explained the latest development on the 6th Street project. Dan said if the decision is to develop alternative #6 which would cut through the Gearing Property from West 2nd across to Terminal Avenue, the State would help with the cost of improvements on Second Street. The 6th Street bridge would be widened and new walkways built across Mill Creek. The new walkways could connect with walking paths along the greenway.

Dan Durow said a few people are not ready to give up on Alternative #2 but Dan explained that all Alternative #2 does is move the problem from 6th Street to the alternative route. The residence along 3rd Street are concerned with the auto fumes being in front and back of their homes. Parks and Recreation object to the road running so close to the park and the children crossing the street. Alternative #2 also destroys a wide path of greenway along Mill Creek. The alternative also cuts the Historic Trevitts addition in half.

Pat May asked if there was a timeline for the 6th Street project.

Dan Durow said the money is there and in the best of all worlds the construction would begin this fall.

Ken Farner asked how many years the 6th Street Bridge would remain safe if no improvements were done to the bridge.

Dan Durow said the state inspectors say the bridge is safe and strong. He said he really did not have an answer to the question, but that it would likely out-live all of us.

Pat May said she approved of alternative #6.

#### **Rescheduling of February Historical Landmarks Meeting**

Scott Keillor said the February meeting needed to be rescheduled because he will be on vacation. He asked if February 12th would be acceptable by the Commission.

The Historical Landmarks Commission approved of February 12th for the next scheduled meeting.

#### **COMMISSION CONCERNS**

Pat May said she talked to Councilman Bill Holt about receiving money from the hotel-motel tax the City collects, to assist in purchasing and placing of Historical Plaques. She said history

is a big draw for tourism in The Dalles and feels the Historical Landmarks Commission is entitled to some of the funds.

Scott Keillor suggested the Commission prepare a presentation and go to a Manager Brief and explain their concerns. We need to let them know who the Historical Landmarks Commission are, what has been done, and what we feel needs to be accomplished.

Scott said the Commission has the experienced people on the Commission to quality for State Certification. Scott said it is important to move on this, because certain grants are made available only to certified local governments..

Gladys Seufert said some new signs have been put up for directions to Fort Dalles Museum but there is not an address on the signs. Gladys said we should try to receive money from tourism to sign more of the historical sites in the community. She suggested using basalt rock for the markers.

Eric Gleason said historical research needs to be done and signing of the historical sites is important.

The Commission agreed to begin a list of priorities and goals at the February meeting to prepare for a presentation to the City Council, perhaps at a Manager's Brief in March.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Scott Keillor  
Associate Planner