



CITY of THE DALLES
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON 97058

(541) 296-5481 ext. 1125
Planning Department

MINUTES
CITY OF THE DALLES
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON 97058
CONDUCTED IN A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE MEETING ROOM

Wednesday, May 24, 2017
4:00 PM

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner McNary at 4:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Sandra Bisset, Dennis Davis, Robert McNary, Doug Leash

Commissioners Absent: Eric Gleason

Others Present: Ft. Dalles Museum Representative Heather Kirby, City Councilor
Tim McGlothlin (arrived at 4:10 p.m.)

Staff Present: Senior Planner Dawn Hert, Assistant to the City Manager
Matthew Klebes

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair McNary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Senior Planner Hert requested an amendment to the agenda to include a presentation by Dr. Bob Hadlow, Historian, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Commissioner Leash moved to approve the agenda as amended, Commissioner Bisset seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes – March 22, 2017

Commissioner Bisset moved to approve the minutes March 22, 2017 minutes as written; Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Public Comments

None.

VII. Presentation

Brad DeHart, Engineer, ODOT District 9, Region 4, introduced Dr. Bob Hadlow, Senior Historian, ODOT. Dr. Hadlow presented an overview on the US 30 Mosier, Dry Canyon and Chenoweth Creek Bridges Project with primary focus on the restoration planned for Chenoweth Creek Bridge. The bridge restoration will retain the original features while meeting current safety standards.

VIII. Pioneer Cemetery Discussion

Senior Planner Hert stated Pioneer Cemetery had been cleaned up by the National Guard; wildflowers were left in place. The City Maintenance crew hauled away the debris. A suggestion was made that the City newsletter include an update on the Pioneer Cemetery.

Assistant to the City Manager Matthew Klebes provided an update on the grant application to develop an interactive web page of Pioneer Cemetery. If successful, the grant would be funded through the State Historic Preservation Office. Also included in the grant application were monies for headstone restoration work. A decision is scheduled for June 5, 2017.

Bisset shared the latest version of the Pioneer Cemetery map owned by the Genealogy Society. Bisset stated there is a sequential history of Pioneer Cemetery; more information is available.

McNary asked if the City secured a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Guard. Hert replied an informal agreement was in place.

VIII. Staff/Commissioner Comments

McNary asked about progress on the Granada. Hert replied the bulk of the work at this time is interior. Gomez made contact with David Benko regarding marquee restoration.

McNary inquired about responsibility for Rock Fort. Hert replied general maintenance will be handled by the City.

Hert stated that staff had approved painting of Pawsh Spa, located at 204 E. Second Street, using the historic building color guidelines.

Hert also stated the Lemke Building façade improvement was in progress.

Klebes shared concerns raised about the Gitchell Building. Klebes compiled an agenda staff report summarizing the history and providing four options for the building:

- Preservation of the building as a landmark in its' current location "as is" with no intention of using the interior
- Preservation and restoration of the building
- Pursue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ)
- Demolition

City Council decided to proceed with the development of an RFQ. An RFQ would potentially provide alternatives to demolition while addressing issues such as the building's proximity to the railroad. The RFQ would remain open for six months to one year.

Bisset asked if the historic significance of the Gitchell Building would be a component of the RFQ. Klebes replied RFQ components would include the engineering and geological studies completed on the building, the registry of the building within an historic area, and a general overview of the history of the building. Hert stated any modifications, relocations or demolition would be presented to the Historic Landmarks Commission prior to a decision.

McGlothlin stated he was working on establishing exactly when the building was commissioned by Abraham Lincoln as a post office. McGlothlin received additional direction from the Library of Congress on avenues to explore while researching the building. He said a historical component is necessary when deciding the future of the building. The current location poses an access problem.

Leash said he hoped for continued discussions on the Gitchell Building along with an outline of progress. Klebes replied he was currently drafting the RFQ; when complete, the RFQ will be forwarded to the Commission. Klebes said his Staff Report was part of the City Council agenda, and he would share that as well.

Davis suggested the Commission read the report on the physical examination of the building. Klebes replied he would forward the report.

Kirby stated the Fort Dalles Museum was considering options for exterior preservation.


IX. Next Meeting Date

At the time of this meeting, there were no agenda items for the June 28, 2017 meeting. The next scheduled meeting is July 26, 2017.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m. by Vice Chair McNary.

Respectfully Submitted
Paula Webb, Planning Secretary


Bob McNary, Vice Chair
Historic Landmark Commission