



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, December 28, 2016
4:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Chair Gleason called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners in Attendance: Eric Gleason, Linda Miller, Dennis Davis, Sandra Bissett and Doug Leash

Commissioners Absent: Heather Kirby

Staff was represented by Senior Planner Hert.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Gleason led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the agenda as written. Commissioner Bissett seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously by the committee.

V. Approval of Minutes – November 16, 2016

Miller motioned to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. It was carried unanimously.

VI. Historic Landmark Committee: 2017 Goal Setting

Senior Planner Hert discussed the layout of the goals, noting that previously short-term goals had indicated a two to three year timespan, whereas long-term goals were three to five years from completion. She asked if the commission would like to continue the goal setting as they had done in previous years, by first reviewing the 2016 goals one at a time and evaluating their relevance. The committee then added or removed items as necessary. The commission agreed to the format.

2016 Short-Term Goals

1. *Encourage preservation and re-use of the Waldron Drug/Gitchell Building.*

While discussing the use of the Waldron Drug/Gitchell Building, Chair Gleason noted that there had been talk of forming a task force to push the project along. Senior Planner Hert suggested that Assistant to the City Manager Matthew Klebes could be an asset to that team, recently vacating a post with Main Street. The commission did not formalize the task force as a part of the goal, but agreed to keep the preservation and re-use as a short-term priority.

2. *Help facilitate educational assistance to help restorers with assessment and other historic preservation needs.*

Senior Planner Hert noted that this was happening on a case-by-case basis.

3. *Periodically provide a historic restoration workshop for local homeowners and contractors.*

Senior Planner Hert proposed that the Commission plan to hold a workshop in the spring or summer of 2017. She also said that she thought a workshop on lathe and plaster repair would be an appropriate topic. The Commission agreed that it would be a good topic. Senior Planner Hert said that the Columbia Gorge Community College would like to have involvement in the workshops. Commissioner Bissett suggested the college be given purview to see if the topic was within their scope before going to other sources for education.

4. *Provide regular recognition of historic property restorations.*

Commissioner Bissett noted that in a “House Beautification” program they had a sign outside the homes and a small write-up in The Dalles Chronicle. Commissioner Miller said that in living in several other areas she had seen similar programs with signs that read, “The home has been retored to an original state...” Commissioner Leash commented that recognition of engaged homeowners is important to motivate other property owners. Chair Gleason suggested there be a neighborhood award that helps highlight a particularly active area of the city. Commissioner Davis wanted to be sure to include both the Historical Landmark Commission and the City Council on the sign to bring awareness to the Commission. The Commission decided it would be best to enact both the recognition and sign program in the spring.

5. *Update and maintain a Historic Resource Center/Site (i.e. historic group links on the City website).*

Senior Planner Hert said that site was complete, but it was noted that several of the links had recently been broken. She was looking into the issue. Commissioner Bissett wondered if there could be additions to the site such as the historical palette colors. Commissioner Bissett added that if the site was updated it could also include the recognized houses or neighborhood.

Commissioner Davis brought up an issue of dividing the goals into “short” and “long” when many of them were continuous. He suggested an “ongoing” category and was open to word changes.

- 6. *Encourage Historic Designs for Downtown by providing historic background research.***
The Commission decided to move the item to continuous goals.
- 7. *Partner with Main Street on further downtown restoration project goals.***
The Commission discussed the current vacancy left by Assistant to the City Manager Klebes and would wait to discuss further action items until it was filled. The Commission decided to keep the item in short-term goals. As a sidebar the Commission was reminded of the pallet benches project that had been proposed, the project is not continuing.
- 8. *Encourage continued restoration and preservation of the Pioneer Cemetery and establish an inventory link/listing on the City's website.***
Senior Planner Hert proposed going to an Oregon Cemetery Grant for a virtual map. Commissioner Bissett suggested that it be linked to the current HLC site. Senior Planner Hert said that she would look into it, but due to lack of site capability and personnel resources changes to the site were currently limited.
- 9. *Encourage city pursuing ownership of the Lewis and Clark Rock Fort and its preservation through maintenance.***
This goal has been accomplished.
- 10. *Encourage the collection and preservation of oral history of the local area and inventory existing oral history.***
Commissioner Bissett wished to speak with Carolyn Purcell, Director, Columbia Gorge Discovery Center to investigate a potential grant for proceeding with cassette tapes already owned and those that will come in. The Commission talked about expanding the wording of this item to include irreplaceable written accounts, or anything that has not been electronically saved for posterity. Commissioner Davis noted that this should be moved to the ongoing goals. Senior Planner Hert suggested this wording: "Encourage the collection and preservation of local history."
- 11. *Continue support of the Civic Auditorium building restoration.***
The Commission agreed to keep the item and include it in short-term goals.
- 12. *Support walking tours and Open House of historic buildings.***
Commissioner Bissett let the Commission know that the "Walking Tour" was in progress, and was slated to be done in 2018 in time for the tourist season.
- 13. *Support and encourage the restoration and re-use of the Elks Building.***
The Commission noted that this goal would be realized shortly. Commissioner Bissett said that the "Walking Tour" was not able to add the new museum purpose of the building as it was not yet complete.
- 14. *Encourage communication with City Council.***
The Commission agreed to move this item to be ongoing.

2016 Long-Term Goals

- 1. Support and encourage the Fort Dalles Museum and Vehicle Storage Display Building.**
Commissioner Davis said that there currently was no fundraising occurring.
- 2. Support, encourage and advocate the preservation and continued use of The Dalles High School and Colonel Wright Elementary School.**
Senior Planner Hert noted that there was a meeting held to discuss reuse of the building and the potential for a new constructed high school. Commissioner Miller noted that the site had been looked at for a child development center. Overall, it now looks as if the school district was looking at reusing the property in lieu of demolition.
- 3. Update Historic Inventories and encourage new nominations to local and national registry districts.**
Commission agreed to move the item to ongoing.
- 4. Update Historic Ordinance.**
Senior Hert said that they will have someone take a look, but the current ordinance is still relevant, and is often requested by other cities as an example.
- 5. Maintain Certified Local Government status.**
Commission agreed to move to ongoing.
- 6. Continue to assist with historic plaque costs and availability.**
Commission agreed to keep with the long-term. Currently, Senior Planner Hert is working with a contractor to price suitable replacements for the baked ceramic plaques currently used. The replacements need to have similar longevity and be more economical.
- 7. Work with the local media to recognize historic homes or properties.**
The item was covered in previous discussion.
- 8. Encourage continued preservation and compatible infill of Historic Chinatown.**
Commission agreed to keep in long-term.
- 9. Encourage preservation and restoration of City Hall.**
Commission agreed to move to ongoing. Commissioner Miller said that there had been talk about renovating the second floor and noted there funds set aside for that project.
- 10. Actively support historic month and local history.**
The Commission agreed to move the item to ongoing.
- 11. Encourage the collection and preservation of history of the local area.**
The Commission wanted to add this to the ongoing goals and combine with the history preservation.

Senior Planner Hert asked for suggestions for additions to the list.

Commissioner Bissett suggested changing the format of the goal setting to be more concrete.

Chair Gleason asked if the design guidelines should be revisited. Senior Planner Hert said that they could be reviewed. The issue will be added with the “Historic Ordinance” bullet.

VII. Staff / Commissioner Comments

Senior Planner Hert wished to find a way to commemorate Sally Donovan and her work. The Commission thought a bench in the Pioneer Cemetery would be a good option.

XI. Next Meeting Date – January 25, 2017

X. Adjournment – Chair Gleason adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jamie Jensen, Administrative Secretary.



Eric Gleason, Chair
Historic Landmark Commission

City of The Dalles
Historic Landmark Commission: 2017 Goals

Short-Term Goals (1-2 years):

- Update Historic Ordinance and Design Standards.
- Provide a historic restoration workshop for local homeowners and contractors.
- Encourage preservation and re-use of the Waldron-Glitchell Building.
- Partner with Main Street on further Downtown restoration project goals.
- Encourage the restoration and preservation of the Pioneer Cemetery and establish an inventory link/listing on the City's website.
- Support the restoration of the Civic Auditorium building.
- Support the creation of walking tours and regular historic building open houses.

Long-Term Goals (3-5 years):

- Support the Fort Dalles Museum and Vehicle Storage Display Building.
- Support and advocate for the preservation and continued use of The Dalles High School and Colonel Wright Elementary.
- Encourage continued preservation and compatible infill of Historic Chinatown.

Continuous Goals:

- Help facilitate educational assistance to help restorers with assessment and other historic preservation needs.
- Provide regular recognition of historic restorations, including onsite acknowledgement and media coverage.
- Encourage *Historic Designs for Downtown* by providing historic background research.
- Encourage the collection and preservation of local history, including irreplaceable oral and written histories.
- Update Historic Inventories and encourage new nominations to local and national registry districts.
- Maintain Certified Local Government status.
- Encourage the preservation and restoration of City Hall.
- Actively support historic month and local history.
- Assist with historic plaque costs and availability.