

# HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 1999

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

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Eric Gleason at 4:00 P.M.

## ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Eric Gleason, John Lambert, and Pat May.

The following Commissioners were absent: Dr. John Skirving, Robert Parker, and Museum Representative.

Staff present: Tom Boyatt, Acting Planning Director, and Dawn Marie Hert, Administrative Secretary.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

May commented that Kim Cowan from the Chamber Of Commerce had asked her if she knew of any year 2000 Time Capsules. May said she was unaware of any but that she should check with the Oddfellows Building or maybe even the United States Post Office.

Gleason said that he had not heard of any year 2000 time capsules.

## DISCUSSION ITEM

United States Post Office Memorandum of Agreement regarding the disposal of The Main Post Office, The Dalles, Oregon. Boyatt said that he had talked with Dave Skilton at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) earlier that day. He explained that the Post Office had used the strongest language that they could possibly use in a Memorandum Of Agreement.

Boyatt explained that the construction alteration/ remodeling that is referred to in the memorandum applies to both the inside and the outside of the building. Boyatt said that the City Planning Department and Historic Landmark Commission could represent the SHPO in regards to the building. Skilton was not sure that they could

assign someone, but they could have an authorized representative inspect the premises.

Boyatt said that with the Commission's blessing, the agreement will be signed. He said that when the SHPO comes to town we would call the Commission together for a tour of the premises.

Gleason asked if they had started the documentation process at this time.

Boyatt said that he did not ask that question, but they probably have not. He said that they will probably do it when they move into their new building.

Lambert said that he had gone through the MOA a few times and asked Boyatt if there was anything that they didn't "lock up".

Boyatt said that it looked pretty well "locked up", and he said that Dave Skilton said that the SHPO went as far as the law allowed. They were taking the MOA very seriously.

Boyatt said that he was very impressed with the new building and that the Post Office was remaining in the downtown area.

May said that she understood that this new Post Office was going to be a Regional Post Office. She thought this was going to be a great thing for The Dalles.

Gleason said that he was glad that this MOA was going to include the interior of the building, he said that the interior has very "character defining" characteristics. Gleason commented on the beautiful marble and oak bathrooms on the top floor of the Post Office..

Boyatt said that he has talked with a few interested parties that have looked at the site for future use. He said that it will take some creativity for any prospective party to work with the site.

Lambert asked what companies had been looking at the site.

Boyatt said that he could not give that information, he had learned of interests outside of the work environment.

Gleason asked if they were supposed to vote on this MOA decision.

Boyatt said that from what he understood was that SHPO wanted a consensus that the document was in order and that the Commission supported it.

Lambert motioned that the Historic Landmark Commission supported the Memorandum Of Agreement in it's entirety. May seconded, and the motion passed unanimously Parker, Skirving, and Museum Representative absent.

#### COMMISSION COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Gleason commented on the Planning Department needing a new Associate Planner.

Boyatt said that they will need an Associate Planner and also will be needing a City Engineer. Sandi Mendonca gave her notice the previous week.

Lambert asked what happened to Bob Paul.

Gleason said that Bob had given his notice a few weeks ago.

Boyatt said that Bob started with Skamania County last week.

The Commission commented on missing Bob Paul.

Boyatt explained that the Planning Department has put out notice for the vacant position. He said that they have put a notice on the internet, and in the Portland papers.

Lambert asked about the letter that was given to the Commission regarding a minor alteration to a historic house. He asked if this was a result of the resolution to allow the Planning Department to make the decision rather than going before the Commission.

Boyatt said that was correct. He said that the copy was made for the Commissioners so that they could stay in the loop of information.

Gleason said that he appreciated the information, it was nice to be informed of decisions that were being made.

May commented on the E.M. Wilson that was talked about in the Memorandum of Agreement. She said that E.M. Wilson was the mother of J.G. Wilson and that she was the first woman ever appointed Post Master.

Gleason said that his house would be on tour the 16<sup>th</sup> of October.

Hert commented that May had asked that the Commission make appearances to the Historic Open Houses.

Boyatt said that could be arranged.

Lambert asked that the Commission have name tags made so that further interest could be generated. He explained that he and other members could wear them at social events, this could possibly help fill our vacancies in the future.

Gleason said that he had received a scholarship to go to the National Preservation Conference in Washington D.C. He will be traveling in October.

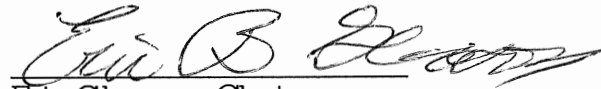
NEXT MEETING DATE

The next scheduled meeting date of the Historic Landmark Commission will be September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1999 at 4:00 P.M., in City Hall Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Marie Hert, Administrative Secretary.



Eric Gleason, Chair  
Historic Landmark Commission