



HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, October 22, 2003

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eric Gleason called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Eric Gleason, Bob McNary, Daniel Dundon,
and Dixie Parker

The following Commissioners were absent: Anita Clason

Staff present: Dawn Hert, Historic Landmarks Secretary
Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

McNary moved that the agenda be approved as submitted. Parker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously, Clason absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gleason asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of August 27, 2003. Parker moved to approve the minutes as submitted and McNary seconded. The motion carried unanimously, Clason absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. SHPO Grant – Hert updated the Commission on the two projects the grant will be applied.

The first is the Historic Preservation Plan for the Pioneer Cemetery. Hert said Sally Donovan would probably be the consultant for the Pioneer Cemetery Plan. Hert will confirm with Attorney Parker that an RFP is not required.

The second is for shared funding on five historic plaques. Commissioners and Staff briefly discussed various plaques eligible for the grant funding.

- B. Northern Wasco County Parks and Recreation District City Park Trees – Gleason said Cozad has been talking about pruning the trees suggested for pruning in 1999 and it is now 2003 and they still have not been pruned. Gleason would like to see the timetable for pruning as well as the timetable for replanting. Gleason would also like to see the pesticide and fertilization records. Gleason asked why Cozad would write about the police chase in his report to the Commission. Parker agreed that it certainly has no bearing on Cozad's responsibility for maintaining and replacing the dangerous trees.

McNary said the trees that are marked as replanted this fall are not replanted. McNary reminded the Commission that Cozad said he would plant three trees every April and that it was a budgeted line item so funding would not be problem. He has changed the species also.

Gleason said this is not a plan, it is only the start of a plan. He wants to see the entire planting scheme to see if the replanting will replicate the original planting scheme. Gleason said he believed the black walnut trees did not do well in irrigated areas.

McNary and Gleason said five of the trees Cozad marked for pruning and maintenance on the plan just submitted have already been cut down for over a year. The stump has even been sodded over. In addition to that, three of the most hazardous trees recommended by the arborist for removal have not been removed or even pruned.

The Commission would like Mr. Cozad to come before them and explain his discrepancies and lack of information.

- C. Gleason updated the Commission and Staff on the Chamber building. He is doing his best to try and save the building and the site.
- D. Pioneer Cemetery – Earline Wasser, 1017 Pomona Apt. B, The Dalles asked to speak to the Commission about her work on the Pioneer Cemetery. Wasser handed out copies of the deed to the Cemetery. In 1904 the Whealdons deeded the Cemetery to the City in 1904. Bigelow donated the ground for a cemetery in 1860.

Wasser discussed the headstones and replacing them with a common marker made of grey Georgia granite, which will hold up for a long period of time. Only two or three of the existing headstones can be preserved.

Wasser said she rides the bus to the cemetery every week. She takes a jug of water and what tools she can carry on the bus. Wasser asked if some small tool storage building could be placed in the far southeast corner of the property. Having a small amount of water available would be helpful also. She is the primary care giver to the cemetery.

Commissioners felt this storage building should be included in the preservation plan. McNary said there is enough treated lumber left over from the Gardner's Cottage project that would frame and floor a small storage building. The siding would need to look historic.

Wasser said the fencing is in really bad shape also.
Hert said the preservation plan should detail what the scope of work will be. Money will need to be budgeted for preservation of the cemetery.

Parker suggested using the cemetery for high school community service hours.

McNary suggested forming a board of directors. Hert said the City Council and City Manager have designated the authority for the cemetery to Historic Landmarks Commission.

Gleason thanked Wasser for all her work and asked that she be available to work with Sally Donovan.

Hert also mentioned that the City will be able to obtain a Cemetery License to inter one person, in this case Elizabeth. Hert, Durow and City Attorney Parker will need to work on getting the forms submitted.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioners urged Staff to moved forward as quickly as possible in hiring Sally Donovan to start the Cemetery Preservation Plan.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 26, 2003. There is no business planned for a November meeting so it is likely this meeting will be cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary.


Eric Gleason, Chair
Historic Landmark Commission

N. Whealdon et ux -- To -- Dalles City.

Warranty Deed.

Filed for record Sept. 9th, 1904 at 4 P.M.

Know all men by these presents, That N. Whealdon and W. Lucinda Whealdon, his wife, in consideration of One dollar and other good and sufficient considerations to them paid by Dalles City, Wasco County, State of Oregon, do hereby remise, release and forever quitclaim unto the said Dalles City, and unto its assigns, all their right, title and interest in and to the following described parcel of real estate, situate in Dalles City, County of Wasco, State of Oregon, to-wit: Commencing at a point South 86° 20' East, (610) chains distant from the corner of Sections (3), (4) (9) and (10) in Township (1) North of Range (13) East W.M. (said point being Northwest corner of The Dalles Cemetery) thence south 79° 10' East, (4.52) chains; thence South 13° West; (5.32) chains; thence North 78° 15' West, (3.45) chains; thence North (4.85) chains; thence North 13° East, (50) links to the place of beginning; containing (2.12) acres.

To have and to hold the same, together with, all and singular, the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, to the said Dalles City and to its assigns forever.

IN Witness whereof, the grantors have hereunto set their hands and seals this 16th day of August, A.D. 1904.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us as witnesses:

T. A. Hudson, Helen T. Hudson.

N. Whealdon (Seal)

W. Lucinda Whealdon (Seal)

State of Oregon)

) ss

County of Wasco) This certifies, That on this 16th day of August, A.D. 1904, before me, the undersigned, a Notary public in and for said County and State, personally appeared the within named N. Whealdon and W. Lucinda Whealdon, his wife who are known to me to be the identical persons described in and who executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

IN testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand official seal the day and year last above written.

T. A. Hudson.

(Notary seal)

Notary public for Oregon.

Historic The Dalles Days: Oct 3-5, 2003

PIONEER CEMETERY

LOCATED ON EAST SCENIC
DRIVE WEST OF JEFFERSON
STREET JUST BELOW THE
COLLEGE.

OPEN TO VIEW BUT
UNIMPROVED. WEAR
WALKING SHOES.

CONTACT THE PUBLIC
LIBRARY AND THE
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FOR
MORE INFORMATION.

Historic The Dalles Days
Fri. - Sun. October 3 -5

Drive by any time



This is our last remaining historical cemetery within the city limits. The remains buried in the Ft. Dalles cemetery were transferred to Ft. Vancouver, Washington. The remains in the Masonic Cemetery were re-buried in the Park Lawn Cemetery on Three Mile Road. While researching obituaries it was learned that there was a Chinese cemetery adjoining the Bigelow cemetery. This too, has disappeared. It is the hope that volunteers can retain the Pioneer Cemetery for future generations.

The Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society serves the many communities in Wasco and surrounding counties, both in Oregon and Washington.

In May of 2000, CGGS decided to "adopt" the Pioneer Cemetery located on Scenic Drive in The Dalles. This cemetery is 143 years old...it dates from 1860. "The land was donated by W.D. Bigelow June 1860. This graveyard was used instead of the Mission cemetery (16th Street between Garrison and Pentland Streets) after 1860. The original name was City graveyard or Pioneer City graveyard or referred to as the Bigelow graveyard." (Source: Anita Drake). There have been seven researchers through the years gleaning information on the older cemeteries in this region. They were George Brown, a fire marshal who recorded information in 1911. At this time many of the markers were wood and fires destroyed most of them. Other researchers have been Daphne Hon Ramsey and Lottie LeGett Gurvey, Lulu Crandall, Anita Drake, Cheryl Gates, and Lorna Elliott. The oldest record of a burial were James Tevis and M.J. Kelly, both in 1860.

There were 235 burials in the Pioneer Cemetery the latest being in 1969, Content {Elton} Wilson. The cemetery is 2.12 acres in size. There has been an annual cleanup held at the cemetery since 2000 and much progress has been made

but much is left to be done. Unfortunately, the cemetery had been neglected for many years and was used as a dumping area and much vandalism occurred to the tombstones. In the 2003 clean up effort, vinca vines were removed in a small section and twelve tombstones were discovered that had not been seen in an untold number of years.

Save PIONEER CEMETERY!!



**"Restore a grave site -
don't let history vanish!"**

The original name was City graveyard or Pioneer City graveyard. It was sometimes referred to as the Bigelow graveyard. The ground was donated by W.D. Bigelow June 14, 1860. This graveyard was used instead of the Indian Mission cemetery (16th Street between Garrison and Pentland streets) after 1860. It contains 2.12 acres

PIONEER CEMETERY HEADSTONE PROJECT

The Pioneer Cemetery located on Scenic Drive in The Dalles, is sorely in need of constant attention. Weeds, bushes, and undergrowth are threatening to overtake a large plat of local history. The Society is anxious to restore each grave site and "not let history vanish".

The Society is also planning on installing one headstone to commemorate each person in the cemetery who does not have a headstone. Their names will be listed separately on this single headstone.

If you would like to contribute to this Pioneer Headstone project, please send your check to:**The Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society**

c/o The Dalles Public Library
722 Court Street
The Dalles, OR 97058

Please mark your check "Pioneer Headstone Project". Thank you for your help and concern.



Pioneer Cemetery Restoration Committee Chairperson—Earline Wasser.