



## HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES

**Monday, September 13, 2004**

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 10:46 P.M.

### **ROLL CALL**

The following Commissioners were present: Eric Gleason, Anita Clason, and Daniel Dundon

The following Commissioners were absent: Dixie Parker and Bob McNary

Staff present: Dan Durow, Community Development Director  
Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

None available for approval.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**Historic Landmarks Commission Application #85-04 of Sunne J. Preston** to disinter her Great Grandmother, Mary A. Porter, from the Pioneer Cemetery, remove the remains & have them cremated. The cremated remains and the headstone will be transported by family members and placed with her Great Grandfather Claudius Porter in the Calhoun Cemetery in Harrison County, Iowa.

Gleason asked if he needed to read the rules for conducting a public hearing being as there was no public in attendance and Durow said if the Commission consented the rules would not need to be read. Gleason asked if any Commissioners had ex-parte contact, bias, or conflict of interest and no one did.

Gleason declared the public hearing and Director Durow presented the Staff Report.

Durow stated that the Commission has no authority to decide “if” the disinterment takes place but rather “how” it will take place. Durow went on to inform the Commission that there is a family dispute regarding the disinterment, which is a civil matter between them. Durow asked if the Commissioners had any questions.

Gleason asked if the family would still own the plot if no body is buried there. Durow said there are no records to show ownership for the Pioneer Cemetery plots. However, it has always been the case that families buy and own the burial plots and headstone and he assumes that is the case here. The family would continue to own the plot.

**Discussion:** The Commissioners revised the proposed conditions of approval. Condition number seven was revised to read: “The applicant shall replace the headstone with a similar headstone of similar size and material at the family plot that contains the same information as the original headstone of Mary Porter plus the date she was disinterred and the place of re-interment, for historical purposes.” Condition number eight was added and reads: “This approval is for the remains of Mary Porter only; any other person’s remains must be left in place.” Condition number four added “...only hand excavation will be permitted...” and ... “The excavators will work in concert with the on-site archaeologist...”

Dundon asked if the newspaper would be involved when the disinterment takes place. Durow said he sees it as a private family matter.

The Commissioners would like City Attorney Parker to look into whatever legal means may be available to keep this type of activity from happening again.

Dundon moved to approve the revised conditions for the disinterment of Mary Porter and Clason seconded. The motion carried unanimously, Parker and McNary absent.

Clason moved to approve HLC 85-04 based upon findings of fact with conditions of approval as revised and Dundon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, Parker and McNary absent.

### **RESOLUTION**

Clason moved to adopt Resolution 81-04 with conditions of approval as revised and Dundon seconded. The motion carried unanimously, Parker and McNary absent.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2004.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary.

  
Eric Gleason, Chair  
Historic Landmark Commission