



HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

City Hall Council Chambers

313 Court Streets

The Dalles, OR 97058

Conducted in a handicap accessible room.

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Bob McNary called the meeting to order at 4:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present:

Bob McNary, Daniel Dundon

Dixie Parker, and Anita Clason (4:10 pm)

The following Commissioners were absent:

Eric Gleason

Staff present:

Dan Durow, Comm. Develop. Director

Dawn Hert, Historic Landmarks Secretary

Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

McNary asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of December 17, 2003. Parker moved to approve the minutes as submitted and Dundon seconded. The motion carried unanimously, Gleason and Clason absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Earline Wasser, 1017B Pomona St., The Dalles, Oregon, spoke about making a list of historic buildings and entities in The Dalles that would be shared among all historic groups. Wasser said the Wasco County Historical Society has been discussing this over the past three meetings. Wasser went on to say the Wasco County Historical Society does not think it is their place to create such list and the Historic Landmarks Commission should create the list and share it with other Historic entities.

McNary said he feels it is a wonderful idea but he doesn't like the Historical Society restricting themselves from helping to form the list. McNary said the Commission could be a "clearing house" for the other historic entities.

Hert said Staff could send out a letter to all the other Historic entities, giving a deadline, and asking for their lists to be presented to the HLC.

McNary said the other historic groups should get a copy of the Commissions short and long-term goals.

Clason arrived 4:10 P.M.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Short and Long Term Goals – The Commission said the goals are fine and had no changes.

Clason moved to approve the Historic Landmarks Commission Short and Long-Term Goals for 2004. Parker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, Gleason absent.

B. Annual Report to City Council – The Commission felt the draft report was great. Hert informed them the Report would go before City Council on their February 23, 2004 meeting. All Commission members are urged to attend.

Durow said it would be good for each Commissioner to say something about themselves and build a positive working relationship with the City Council.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Pioneer Cemetery – Hert said Sally Donovan will soon be submitting her proposal for the Cemetery Preservation Plan and it is within the budgeted amount. No other consultants have expressed an interest. Hert next gave the Commission an update on the latest Grant application. This grant would help pay for new fencing and irrigation upgrades at the cemetery.

McNary said he and Earline Wasser had attended the quarterly Pioneer Cemetery Meeting in Salem. One of the presentations dealt with placing cemeteries on the national register. McNary asked about the process.

Hert said according to Mira Meyer, State Historic Preservation Office, our cemetery definitely qualifies for a national nomination. Meyer's suggestion was to have the preservation plan in place prior to seeking the nomination.

McNary said Kristi Curran did not seem optimistic. McNary asked Wasser to explain.

Ms. Wasser said having someone of local importance buried in the cemetery, having an ethnic cemetery, having civil war veterans, all of these carry weight on qualifying for the national register.

Hert said based upon the questionnaire Wasser and the City submitted previously, Mira Meyer said our cemetery did qualify for national nomination.

Staff and Commission discussed available tools and volunteer labor at the cemetery.

Durow said volunteers should be pre-authorized for the type of work they will be performing and how many hours they work. The City is responsible for paying Worker's Compensation Insurance on the volunteer hours.

McNary asked who is responsible for allowing and monitoring the volunteer personnel.

Hert said the Commission is responsible. However, the Commission can direct Staff to approve volunteer labor and arrange supervision. The new preservation plan will give guidelines for needed and allowed work.

B. Historic Plaques - Hert said she has received ten applicants for the five plaques. There is one week left for the applications to be returned. The Sixth Street Bridge will be one of the five plaques. The other four will be decided by a drawing. Hert suggested that the Commission perform the drawing and the Commission was in favor of that idea. Hopefully, this Plaque program will continue over the years.

COMMISSIONER/STAFF COMMENTS

Parker said the tour of Second Wasco County Courthouse was great. McNary said the Jailhouse was not located in the basement but rather in the current "Body Preparing Room".

Durow gave the Commission an update on the Wasco Warehouse buildings. He toured with a structural engineer, and the original warehouse and common wall are in very bad shape. The Engineer will be providing a report with his recommendation. Durow feels it may be possible to save the second warehouse exterior walls by stabilizing them. The pressure of the collapsing roof on the walls and rotting beams is causing the walls to bow outward.

Durow said he expects to have five developers interested in the upcoming RFP for the Mill property. Durow is proceeding with the "GERT" grant application. The East Gateway will also have to be developed for adequate access to the site. All available program information will be provided to the prospective developers.

McNary said Sam Woolsey needs a wagon restoration museum annex. They would not be able to pay rent however.

Durow gave the Commission a brief update on the plans for the Chamber of Commerce. Currently, one option the Chamber is looking at for a new visitor center and office, is City property located at 1st and Union. Their current site is really too small to provide adequate parking for RV's and buses. Hert said no demolition permit has been issued for the existing Chamber building.

Clason said her personal opinion on the 1st and Union St. site is that it is a win/win situation. That site would provide infrastructure to service the tourists that will be arriving at the tour boat dock. It will provide public restrooms for the downtown area. They would be closer to the walking tour area and the talking murals. The greenbelt area would possibly be finished sooner rather than later also.

Durow said the railroad tracks are one negative, however.

Hert updated the Commission on a new "Preserve Oregon" grant. Hert is applying for this grant for City Hall restoration. Hert went on to say she would wait until next year to apply for the "Preserve America". There just wasn't enough time this year.

Clason notified the Commission that she would need to become an applicant before the Commission for the Rock Fort project. Hert told her she could apply for the next meeting.

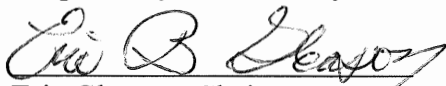
NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2004.

ADJOURNMENT

Clason moved that the meeting be adjourned and Parker seconded the motion. It carried unanimously with Gleason absent. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary.



Eric Gleason, Chair
Historic Landmark Commission