

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, November 30, 2005

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, & Dixie Parker

The following Commissioners were absent: Anita Clason

Staff present: Dawn Hert, Associate Planner
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 needed for the minutes of June 22, 2005. There were none. Parker moved to approve the minutes as submitted and McNary seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, Clason absent.

Staff and Commissioners briefly discussed the City Park Annual Report from Northern Wasco County Parks and Rec. Hert said she would ask Director Scott Green to prepare a report for the Commission. There will also be a reenactment this coming summer of the marker placement of Ezra Meeker. One of his wagons, refurbished, will be at the reenactment and possibly his oxen, stuffed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS – PUBLIC HEARING

Historic Landmarks Commission Application #91-05 of Colonel Wright School and Brian Goodwin to construct a greenhouse on school property for student and community use. Property address is 610 W. 14th.

The rules for a public hearing were read. Gleason polled the Commission for ex-parte contact, bias, or conflict of interest. There was none. Gleason called for the Staff Report, which Hert summarized. Hert told the Commission that there would be minimal excavation for the foundation and that this area has been used as a garden in the past.

Proponent: None.

There were no opponents or rebuttal.

Gleason closed the public testimony portion of the hearing.

Deliberation: Gleason said Pat May used to talk about her children finding arrow heads on this property. This property is also near the center of the parade grounds for the Fort. This is definitely an archaeologically sensitive area.

Parker recommended changing condition of approval number 2 to, "If any archeological resources or materials are discovered during excavation, the applicant will need to stop excavation and have the site professionally evaluated prior to continued excavation at the site."

Parker moved to approve HLC 91-05 based upon the findings and the conditions of approval, with condition of approval number two amended,. McNary seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, Clason absent.

RESOLUTIONS

McNary moved to adopt HLC Resolution 87-05 with conditions as modified. Parker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously, Clason absent.

ACTION ITEMS – Hert presented the Staff Report on House Bill 2776. Staff is requesting that the Commission make a recommendation to City Council to adopt, by Resolution, House Bill 2776 that expands types of property for which an owner may reapply for a second 15-year period of historic property special assessment. This House Bill establishes conditions for residential property to qualify for second term of classification and special assessment and provides that a new owner of historic property must expressly assent to the preservation plan to qualify for special assessment.

Hert explained that this second 15-year assessment has been available to commercial historic properties for quite some time.

McNary said he would like to know how many tax dollars the county is being relieved of and how many residential historic properties could be involved.

Hert said she had not researched that information. Hert felt that the Commission would be in support because it is a positive program for historic preservation. Hert said she will get that information for the City Council approval process.

Gleason explained how well the program works for him on his commercial building and his home.

Parker moved to recommend that the City Council adopt by Resolution, House Bill 2776
McNary seconded the motion and it carried with McNary and Parker voting for, Gleason abstaining,
and Clason absent.

PIONEER CEMETERY DISCUSSION

Earline Wasser, 1017 Pomona Street West, The Dalles, Oregon, brought some pictures of the improvements that have taken place at the cemetery. Wasser also brought pictures showing some destruction that took place due to the fire at the home bordering the cemetery. Fire engines and Sprint trucks did drive into the cemetery. Wasser said a gate should be installed at the southwest corner of the cemetery fencing and Hert said that is the plan. There has been some vandalism and some headstones are lying on the ground. Wasser will get pictures of this vandalism.

McNary said the PUD easement creates a problem because there is no way for vehicles to access the cemetery. McNary said the neighbor's deck could be in the access easement along the east side. McNary said he talked to a City Councilman and a City Staff person and they both told him that the City does not own the Pioneer Cemetery.

Staff and Commission briefly discussed the dead/dying tree that needs to be removed from the cemetery. Hert said she would talk to Paul Titus at the PUD.

McNary asked about the centralized monument. Wasser said they are still trying to raise the money. To date the amount raised is \$1,500.

STAFF AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Parker said she noticed Craig's Office Supply building is being painted and the awning is going up.

McNary asked Hert to check on the status of the Booth house in City Park.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 28, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Ball, Administrative Secretary.



Eric Gleason, Chair
Historic Landmark Commission