

**MINUTES**

**HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING**

February 23, 2022

4:00 p.m.

VIA ZOOM

**PRESIDING:** Robert McNary, Chair

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Bev Eagy, Forust Ercole, Eric Gleason (arrived at 4:28 p.m.)

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Museum Commission Representative Julie Reynolds

**OTHERS ABSENT:** City Councilor Scott Randall

**STAFF PRESENT:** Senior Planner Dawn Marie Hert, Secretary Paula Webb

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair McNary at 4:03 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Ercole led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Ercole and seconded by Eagy to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried 3/0; Eagy, Ercole, and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, Gleason absent, one position vacant.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Ercole and seconded by Eagy to approve the minutes of January 26, 2022 as written. The motion carried 3/0; Eagy, Ercole, and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, Gleason absent, one position vacant.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Senior Planner Hert stated Commissioner Doug Leash passed away. He was a Commissioner for many years. Commissioner Leash was an educator for many years with a passion for historic

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structures. He was also instrumental in saving St. Peter's Landmark. His love of architecture was evident in his contributions to the historic preservation community. He will be missed.

Hert stated complaints made by Richard Wolf will be addressed by the Codes Enforcement Officer.

Funding for the Sidewalk Repair Program was exhausted last year. The program will likely focus this year on residential properties. Senior Planner Hert will provide details as they become available.

Hert stated we have great forward movement on new, repair and replacement plaques. Several property owners are interested. Additional details should be available next month.

Senior Planner Hert will be unavailable for the March 23, 2022 HLC meeting. Staff consensus was to cancel the regularly scheduled meeting and hold a special meeting on March 30, 2022.

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Eagy received communication from the group of Walldogs working on the Ben Snipes mural. The group, the Wingnuts, are out of Totenham, Ontario.

The Eagy's viewed new photos shared from the Wasco County Historical Society at the Discovery Center. The Eagy's also watched Karl Vercoouteren's presentation on David Douglas, the Scots naturalist.

Commissioner Eagy stated James Edmond Greeley, a Native American musician, will perform at St. Peter's Landmark on February 26, 2022.

The Board of St. Peter's Landmark will meet to fill Commissioner Leash's position. Leash acted as President, Treasurer and Events Coordinator for the Landmark.

Representative Reynolds said the Fort Dalles Museum will open March 1, 2022. Cruise ships are lined up throughout the summer. Director Cal McDermid will retire as of April 6, 2022. Volunteers are needed.

Chair McNary stated the Sunrise Service at Pulpit Rock is 99 or 100 years old. The service will be held April 17, 2022.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

HLC 196-21, The Dalles Main Street/Walldogs, 311 Union Street

Commissioner Ercole read the rules of a public hearing. He then asked if any Commissioner had ex parte contact, conflict of interest, or bias which would prevent an impartial decision. Hearing none, Chair McNary opened the public hearing at 4:26 p.m.

Senior Planner Hert presented the staff report.

*John Lehman, PO Box 331, The Dalles*

Mr. Lehman stated the mural will be placed on a concrete cinder block wall that was an addition to the structure. The surface is already painted and ready for a mural. The proposed area is 15'

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by 27'; final size and content is not yet determined. The surface will be cleaned with gentle pressure washing and mild soap; no sandblasting is proposed.

Chair McNary closed the public hearing at 4:36 p.m.

Commissioner Gleason stated he had no ex parte contact, conflict of interest, or bias which would prevent an impartial decision.

It was moved by Ercole and seconded by Eagy to approve HLC 196-21 with four conditions of approval. The motion carried 4/0; Eagy, Ercole, Gleason and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, one position vacant.

### HLC 197-21, The Dalles Main Street/Walldogs, 401 Court Street

Chair McNary asked if any Commissioner had ex parte contact, conflict of interest, or bias which would prevent an impartial decision. Hearing none, Chair McNary opened the public hearing at 4:41 p.m.

Senior Planner Hert presented the staff report.

#### John Lehman, PO Box 331, The Dalles

Mr. Lehman stated the location of this mural will be very visible. The wrap-around of the corner will provide Walldogs creative license to produce a unique mural. The wall is painted cinder block. The surface will be cleaned with gentle pressure washing and mild soap; no sandblasting is proposed. The mural will be one continuous piece wrapping around the corner.

It was moved by Ercole and seconded by Eagy to approve HLC 196-21 with four conditions of approval. The motion carried 4/0; Eagy, Ercole, Gleason and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, one position vacant.

Chair McNary asked who would take responsibility for maintenance of the murals. Lehman's understanding is the Walldogs are instrumental in coordinating the mural fest and painting the murals. Once complete, Walldogs will take over continued and future maintenance. Senior Planner Hert added the existing murals were assessed. If possible, existing murals may be restored. Walldogs may add new murals in the future.

Representative Reynolds asked how the long the new murals will last. Lehman thought they would last 10 to 15 years. Hert added many murals in town are over 20 years old.

Chair McNary closed the public hearing at 4:56 p.m.

It was moved by Ercole and seconded by Eagy to approve HLC 197-21 of The Dalles Main Street and Walldogs with four conditions of approval, based on findings of fact detailed in the staff report. The motion carried 4/0; Eagy, Ercole, Gleason and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, one position vacant.

### HLC 198-21, The Dalles Main Art Center, 220 E. Fourth Street

Chair McNary asked if any Commissioner had ex parte contact, conflict of interest, or bias, which would prevent an impartial decision. Hearing none, Chair McNary opened the public hearing at 4:59 p.m.

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Senior Planner Hert presented the staff report.

Hert clarified freestanding signs are not recommended in the current guidelines; therefore, this application is before the Commission. Previously, SHPO approved a freestanding sign for the AmeriTitle building due to the pristine condition of the structure and the setback. The Art Center is also pristine with an existing setback allowing for a freestanding sign.

James Scott Stephenson, 3308 Royal Crest Drive, The Dalles

The Dalles Art Center is viewed by many as a library. The challenge is to identify as a community art center. Signage on the structure includes “Carnegie Library” in stone, with the addition of “The Dalles Art Center” above. Current signage is ineffective and detracts from the appearance of the building.

The proposed design will have cream-colored letters with black bases, reflecting colors on the Art Center. The sign is designed to increase visibility, emphasize activities and connect to the historic nature of the building.

In response to Commissioner Eagy’s question, Stephenson replied the foam letters saying “The Dalles Art Center” would be removed from the building. The proposed sign includes “The Dalles Art Center” on one panel, with “Inspire and engage all with art” on the opposite panel. Hert added removal of the foam letters would return the building to its original state.

Chair McNary closed the public hearing at 5:17 p.m.

It was moved by Gleason and seconded by Ercole to approve HLC 198-21 of The Dalles Art Center with three proposed conditions of approval, based on findings of fact detailed in the staff report. The motion carried 4/0; Eagy, Ercole, Gleason and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, one position vacant.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

HLC Resolution 185-22: Approval of HLC 196-21, The Dalles Main Street /Walldogs

It was moved by Gleason and seconded by Eagy to approve Resolution HLC 185-22, approving application HLC 196-21 of The Dalles Main Street and Walldogs with four conditions of approval. The motion carried 4/0; Eagy, Ercole, Gleason and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, one position vacant.

HLC Resolution 186-22: Approval of HLC 197-21, The Dalles Main Street/Walldogs

It was moved by Eagy and seconded by Gleason to approve Resolution HLC 186-22, approving application HLC 197-21 of The Dalles Main Street and Walldogs with four conditions of approval. The motion carried 4/0; Eagy, Ercole, Gleason and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, one position vacant.

HLC Resolution 187-22: Approval of HLC 198-21, The Dalles Art Center

It was moved by Ercole and seconded by Eagy to approve Resolution HLC 187-22, approving application HLC 198-21 of The Dalles Art Center with three conditions of approval. The motion carried 4/0; Eagy, Ercole, Gleason and McNary voting in favor, none opposed, one position vacant.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Chair McNary noted a special meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2022.

Commissioner Gleason apologized for being late. Gleason noted he will be in the field through mid-May and may be unavailable for meetings.

Senior Planner Hert stated Mayor Mays has spoken with one individual who expressed interest in joining the Commission. Commissioner Eagy also spoke with an interested individual.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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Submitted by/  
Paula Webb, Secretary  
Community Development Department

SIGNED:

  
Robert McNary, Chair

ATTEST:



Paula Webb, Secretary  
Community Development Department