

MINUTES

MASON COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Mason County Building I, Commissioner's Chambers

Members Present:

Stan Graham-Chair; Elizabeth Jahnke-Co-Chair; Kristina Trebil; Mo MacCracken; Frank Benavente; Val Johnson; Llyn de Danaan

Staff:

Michael MacSems

I. Call to Order

Chair Stan Graham called the meeting to order at 2:08 PM.

Approval of the Minutes from the October Meeting: No corrections, motion made and seconded.

II. New Business

New Mason County Staff: Newly appointed staff Michael MacSems was welcomed to his first meeting with the MCHPC. Staff member Kell McAboy, Land Use Planner resigned her position with the county and took a position for the Port of Tacoma. Commission wishes her the best in her new job.

Commission Calendar: Llyn de Danaan suggested that the Commission build a calendar for 2010 to include such items as growth management and priority of projects.

Preservation Workshop: Llyn de Danaan reported to the group that she received many new ideas for the Commission and that one thing that she took away was that the MCHPC needs to take a strong stance regarding preservation and to ask for help from the County Commissioners. The MCHPC also needs to be more active and visible to the community.

Birthday Celebration of MCHPC: Llyn de Danaan led the group in a brainstorming session for ideas that the Commission might use to celebrate the 5th birthday of the MCHPC.

- One day or weekend
- Co-ordinate or collaborate with community members
- Hold event at Shelton Civic Center
- Include Tribes and "historic" families (settlers)
- Series of workshops
- Highlight properties from HWY 101 Project
- Involve school children with poster contest and/or essay contest
- Solicit personal photos of area from citizens; encourage "bring your stuff to share"
- Each Commission member could take on a piece of the celebration
- Workshop on how to solicit for, produce, collect, and maintain oral histories

It was agreed that a workshop session should include what happens to a property when it is designated as a historic property. Maybe someone from the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (Meghan Duvall) could come to talk and explain the tax advantages.

Suggestions were made for involvement from various community groups such as the following:

- Improvement Clubs
- McReavy Museum /House-Open House
- Allyn
- Matlock
- Grant School – Open House
- Shelton Museum/Historical Society

- Oyster Bay community (Llyn with historic families of the area)

It was suggested that the celebration be held sometime during the month of June as that is when the birthday is.

Suggestions were made to produce certificates for MCHPC Commission members, past and present and to have a “history hall of fame” to recognize people in the county who have greatly enhanced historic preservation.

Suggestions were made that any materials we make (banners, etc.) could then be used for other community activities such as the MC Fair or Oyster Festival.

Activities should be “video taped” for the future and that the Commission should explore ways to use new technology.

Question was raised regarding target audience. Who we invite will make a difference on what appeals to community. It was agreed that the Commission needs to have a focused event and have a purpose.

Question was raised regarding funding and it was decided that we have budgeting for this type of activity

Suggestion was made to re-make the current mailing list to include a few other entities such as the MC Historical Society, Shelton Historic Commission, area senior centers, Grant School, Harstine Island, Allyn, and Victor Improvement Club.

Suggestion was made to involve the County Commissioners and Mr. MacSems will invite Ross Gallagher specifically to the January 2010 meeting.

Mr. Graham cautioned the MCHPC to be realistic about the plans and that it would be better to begin in a small way and then build on that each year.

Commission moved and seconded that specifics would be planned for the January 14, 2010 Meeting as Ms De Danaan and Mr. Graham will be absent from the December 10, 2009 meeting. The January 2010 MCHPC meeting will be scheduled for 2-hours.

III. Old Business

MCHPC Appointment: Ms De Danaan’s appointment to the MCHPC was up in November. Mr. MacSems will check to see what the procedure is for re-appointment. County Commissioners will need to vote on her re-appointment. Mr. Graham pointed out that the MCHPC is depending on Llyn’s certified “expert” status in order to remain compliant with the terms of our CLG funding.

Joint Meeting Suggestion: The Shelton Historic Preservation Commission would like to meet with the MCHPC. They meet on the 2d Thursday of each month. Mr. Graham will check with them to see what would work best and how the two commissions can hold a joint meeting. The MCHPC agreed that this could be a valuable meeting.

Budget: Mr. MacSems will check with the MC fiscal department to see if the budget was discussed with former staff and to see if the money amounts were placed into the line items in the budget. Frank Benavente volunteered to assist Mr. MacSems if he had any questions regarding budget issues.

County Sketch: Llyn De Danaan reported her findings concerning the county link to the Secretary of State’s website. She will send the members the link and it will be discussed at the January 14, 2010 MCHPC Meeting.

HWY 101 Project: Val Johnson showed the Commission a format to use to show the 50 properties along with a short text. This could be posted or passed out. MCHPC felt that this would be useful tool and Ms Johnson volunteered to compile the property photos and descriptions using the format.

Discussion took place regarding the properties identified by the Project and Elizabeth Jahnke volunteered to contact Meghan Duvall at DAHP to find out about form letters to notify property owners that we have identified their property as significant to the history of the county. She will see what form letters are used and see if they are appropriate for the Commission's needs and will modify as needed. Ms Jahnke will email with what she found out and may include copies of the form letters for MCHPC review.

Kristina Trebil will begin finding addresses for the property owners and report back to the group either through email or at the December meeting. Discussion will be held at the December 10, 2010 meeting regarding next steps in using the letters.

Group moved and seconded to accept the list of 50 +1 Properties from the HWY 101 Project. MCHPC will wait to receive the "Context Statement" from the Andrews Group before scheduling a public hearing.

Member Photos: Ms Johnson took photos of each member and will use the format for the properties to publish members photos with names/addresses on the county website or other publicity type products as needed.

County Facilities Manager: Mr. MacSems reported that the Mason County Facilities Manager is interested in the MCHPC grant program to use student interns in a project regarding the Courthouse. He would like to meet with us.

Grant School Application: It was agreed that the application to designate Grant School was finished and had the elements needed for the MCHPC to make a decision for approval. Members of the Grant School committee will be invited to the December 10, 2009 meeting in order to answer any questions that the group might have. Ms Jahnke will call the GS committee to invite them to the meeting.

IV. Other Commission Discussion: None

V. Next Meeting:

December 10, 2009 Meeting: Meeting will be held in County Building 9; middle doors

VI. Meeting was adjourned at 3:46pm.