

MINUTES
MASON COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Thursday, January 12, 2012

Grant School, Pickering District

Members Present: Stanley Graham, Marty Harrell, Stephanie Neil, Teva Yount, and Richard Calvin

Vacant Seats: 2

Staff: Michael MacSems, Mason County

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Stanley Graham, Chair, at 2:00 p.m.

Reviewed proposed meeting minutes from the 12/8/2011 meeting. Minutes unanimously accepted with corrections.

II. New Business

Michael Olson stepped down from seat

Mr. MacSems provided the letter of resignation from Michael Olson. Discussed the two vacancies on the Commission and possible replacements. No recommendations were made. Discussed news releases.

Grant School presentation

Connie Hawes, President of Pickering Community Club, provided an excellent overview on the preservation of Grant School. Specifically, the map restoration and the renovation of the map box above the chalkboard. Discussion followed on how the Grant School application, proposal, and close out paperwork are very detailed, clear, and well-spelled out. Discussed using this as an example and posting it on the MCHPC website. Mr. Calvin made a motion to accept the grant proposal as completed and approve the payment. Ms Neil seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Historic Preservation Grant applications

Mr. MacSems provided three applications received from the local community. Mr. Calvin provided copies of the Historic Preservation Grant application checklist for review.

Mason County Public Health application was discussed and reviewed against the checklist. After a lengthy discussion, members were in agreement that the request did not meet the grant requirements listed in #5 of the evaluation form. Mr. Calvin made a motion to reject the Mason County Public Health application. Ms Harrell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussed the possibility of offering a continuation of funding from the MCHPC instead of a Historic Preservation grant.

Paddle Squaxin Island 2012 application was discussed and reviewed against the checklist. Again, after a lengthy discussion, members were in agreement that nothing tangible or measurable is offered and the request did not meet the grant requirements listed in #5 of the evaluation form. Ms Harrell made a motion to reject the Paddle Squaxin proposal. Ms Yount seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Graham reported that he will call the Squaxin point of contact for the application and offer an invitation to the next public meeting in order to discuss a one-time funding of the project instead of a Historic Preservation grant.

Mason County Fair Association application was discussed and reviewed against the checklist. Noting a trend, members were in agreement after a lengthy discussion that there is no clarity, nothing tangible is offered, and the application does not meet the grant requirements listed in #5 of the evaluation form. Ms Harrell made a motion to reject the Mason County Fair Association proposal. Ms Yount seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Graham reported that he will personally call the applicants and inform them of the status of their applications.

Grant application process

Discussion over the concern that all three applications were rejected led to the agreement that more clarity and detail in the requirements listed in #5 of the evaluation form should be made to the public. It does not seem that the applicants understand that the Historical Preservation Grant is a reimbursement grant based on completion of work defined in a contract.

Mr. Graham and Mr. Calvin brought forward the idea to offer a workshop to the public in order to explain the application process, outline the requirements, and show how to clearly define the *endstate*. (?) Further discussion to follow.

Short Course on Local Planning Focused on Historic preservation and Downtown Revitalization

Mr. Calvin provided excellent oral report back after attending this training event provided by the City of Olympia on Thursday, January 5th. Mr. Calvin complimented the MCHPC on being transparent and complying with the Open Public Meeting Act. Discussed the use of email and as a reminder to only discuss policy, and nothing that impacts organizations or persons, which would be considered a violation of transparency.

III. Old Business

1916 Map

Mr. MacSems reported that the map is framed and back in possession of the Committee. It will be viewed at the next meeting.

Shelton-Allyn historic survey

Not discussed.

Historic Preservation Month

Mr. MacSems reported that after corrections to the press release are made, the release will be sent out by the end of January. Mr. Graham stated that copies of the news release should be sent to organizations on our register. After a short discussion, came to the agreement that if there are no calls regarding the press release by mid-March, the MCHPC will call community members that have participated before and those who may have a potential benefit of participating. More discussion to follow at the next meeting.

Organizational Membership

Mr. MacSems provided copies of previous issues from the Washington State Historical Society publication "Columbia".

IV. Other Commission Discussion

Correspondence

Mr. MacSems reported that he is currently updating the roster for dissemination. Mr. MacSems mentioned the passing of Jim Connelly, a founding member of the MCHPC and Mason County's first planner/planning director serving from 1968 to 1980.

MCHPC received five free tickets to the State Historical Museum in Tacoma for dispersal. The fate of these tickets has yet to be determined.

Next Meeting Date

February 8, 2012, Mason County Building, Conference Room I.

V. Adjournment

Mr. Calvin made a motion to adjourn at 4:08 p.m. Ms Harrell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Teva Yount, Commission Member