

Minutes

Mason County Historic Preservation Commission

May 11, 2017

**Mason County Department of Health Meeting Room
415 N. 6th Street
Shelton, WA 98584**

Members Present: Rick Calvin, Ed Huber, Marty Harrell, Steve Rose

Members Absent: Stephanie Neil (excused) and David Willard (excused)

County Staff: Michael MacSems and Marissa Watson

I. Call to order

Roll Call- Mr. Calvin called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Review and Approve Minutes from April 13th –Mr. Rose made a motion to approve minutes as presented, Ms. Harrell seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence-

- Trust News – Washington Trust For Historic Preservation, April 2017
- April 2017 Historical Society Newsletter
- Invitation to Vintage Washington
- Thank you letter from Washington State Trust for Historical Preservation
- Email from Northwest Vernacular concerning roster list
- Thank you letter from Washington State Historical Society
- Bill Busaka inquiry about copy of a resolution in support of the Simpson Roundhouse.

II. New Business

Announcements – Mr. MacSems talked about his experience at the 2017 Planning Association of Washington conferences and how some of the topics/experiences he had related to historic preservation. They discussed public entities that had possible funding for preservation programs. Mr. Huber added that DAHP has programs to help support preservation as well.

Discussion of Possible Inventory of County Owned Historic Properties – No contact had been received from Mr. Pinter yet, regarding a list of County owned properties. Mr. MacSems was asked to contact Mr. Pinter on the progress of this list.

Mr. Calvin gave Mr. Huber a short review of Mr. Pinter and Commissioner Neatherlin's visit, last HPC meeting, and their discussion on County owned property. The County had already hired someone to compose a list of County owned property and it would be made available to the HPC when finished.

Other (if any) – None

Old Business

2017 Matlock Oldtimers Festival – Mr. Rose, Mr. Calvin, and Ms. Harrell briefed the HPC on the success of the event. On Saturday of the event it was slow, but picked up later in the day. Mr. Rose mentioned they had visitors who talked about buildings that might qualify for the Historic Register. Mr. Calvin talked about the Bay Shore Non-profit, Daughters of the Pioneers, he had discussions with them regarding interpretive signage for the (Baywater community townsite?). HPC talked about the differences in State placed historic markers.

Continued Memorial Hall Discussion – Mr. Calvin mentioned he had sent Mr. Pinter an email with the HPC's requirements to be met in a list from Facilities. Mr. MacSems said that he would contact Mr. Pinter for a status update.

Status of County Historical Preservation Ordinance Update- Mr. MacSems told the HPC that he had briefed the BOCC on the Ordinance update and that the BOCC had some concerns that the update may have unintended consequences. The BOCC was concerned new language in the document could possibly stifle development. The BOCC asked that the proposed change to the Historic Preservation Ordinance should require that a notice be recorded with the Auditor so that future owners would know if the property that they are buying has been designated as being in a Traditional Cultural Landscape or Cultural Landscape. Mr. Huber explained the definition as a significant landscape to a certain culture, i.e. Native American, Polish, Italian, etc. This landscape is kind of like a Historic District, but usually larger with multiple owners. The elements of a cultural landscape don't have to be on the National Registry.

Mr. Calvin interjected that putting the term Traditional Cultural Landscape or Cultural Landscape into the Ordinance was no different than putting a building on the Registry, the process would be similar.

Mr. Huber, as an example of the term(s), talked about the Capital Mall District in Washington D.C.; when thinking about that cultural landscape and how it is defined we look at the elements of the district and the elements of the landscape, they do not necessarily have to be buildings. Mr. MacSems asked what would be the benefit of putting a Traditional Cultural or Cultural Landscape on the Register? Mr. Calvin answered by indicating that the benefit would be acknowledging what is important to the community.

HPC discussed historic cultural landscapes, what they are made up of, and whether they have to be on the National Registry or not. Mr. Huber elaborated on the National Register process for defining cultural landscapes; questions asked include the following: what are the boundaries, what is significant, and what makes it a community cultural landscape.

Mr. Calvin believed Traditional Cultural and Cultural Landscapes will fall more toward the designation requirements of districts and that recognizing them wouldn't be any different than the process of recognizing something to put on the Historic Register. Mr. Huber added that the recognition process may be the same, but these landscapes would not necessarily have to go on the register. The benefits of recognizing this landscape would be signage, advertisement, tourism and interest from the community.

Mr. MacSems added that it seems that the BOCC wants buildings within these cultural landscapes recorded with the Auditor, so future owners are aware. Mr.

Huber reminded everyone that not everything within these types of landscapes are contributing elements.

HPC talked about the process to get rid of an element of a cultural landscape, if it was on a register, building permit would trigger a COA and if work was done without a COA it would become de-registered.

Mr. Calvin and Mr. Huber agreed to generate a document that explained their discussion on traditional cultural landscapes and cultural landscapes. Mr. MacSems would like Mr. Calvin or Mr. Huber to talk with the BOCC, when they are next briefed to explain this topic more fully.

Comprehensive Plan Update- No further update from last meeting, but Ms. Watson told the HPC she would send out an email or notify Mr. MacSems if the date for the next BOCC meeting regarding the COMP Plan changed.

Website Update (Creating an On-Line MCHPC Calendar) – Mr. MacSems mentioned that nothing new had occurred. Mr. Calvin asked if there could be progress by next meeting.

Other (if any) – Mr. Rose mentioned Susan Corliss (sister-in-law of deceased HPC member David Corliss) and trying to get information on where a book of laminated articles regarding the work of the HPC was located. It was noted it may be with the Mason County Historical Society, Mr. Calvin will talk with them about retrieving the book.

Mr. Calvin noted that the Certificate of Appropriateness topic had not made it on this agenda, but added that he was still working on the revisions.

Mr. Rose mentioned some other events, Oyster Fest, the Forest Festival, and the Historical Society's Car Show as platforms they may want the HPC to participate in.

III. Other Commission Discussion

Financial Statement- Mr. MacSems passed out the financial statement and made a comment that the 2016 4th quarter was given out in December 2016, so it wouldn't show up on the 2017 expenditures to date sheet. HPC asked if it was possible to change that, Mr. MacSems said that was a question for Ms. Chaussee.

IV. Next Meeting Date June 8, 2017

V. Adjournment

At 3:17 p.m. Ms. Harrell made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Rose. All in favor, meeting adjourned.