

Minutes
Mason County Historic Preservation Commission
November 9, 2017
Mason County Department of Health Meeting Room
415 N. 6th Street
Shelton, WA 98584

Members Present: Ed Huber, Stephanie Neil, Marty Harrel, and Rick Calvin

Members Excused: Steve Rose

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 October 12, 2017 – Ms. Harrel made a motion to approve the October 12, 2017 minutes as presented. Mr. Huber seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence-

- Washington Trust for Historic Preservation – October 2017 Issue

II. New Business (regular meeting outline suspended until after hearing)

Public Hearing to Consider Placing the Jarrell's Cove Cemetery on the County Historic Registry – Public Hearing to Consider the Jarrell's Cove Cemetery, located on Harstine Island, on the Mason County Historic Registry – Ms. Sandy Murphy spoke about their goal of placing the cemetery on the Historic Register and receiving a plaque designating it as a Mason County Place of Historic Interest. She talked about the Centennial occurring in 2014, telling that it took three years to organize a working library, including information on the cemetery. Upon investigation she found the original warranty deeds and quit claim deeds to the cemetery. She was confident she had found all the information on the cemetery history. She talked about the Jarrell's headstone repair by Chris Rowley and interest in reestablishing the cemetery board.

Ms. Murphy mentioned a dedication ceremony that is planned for May 26, 2018 at noon, she invited the HPC members to attend. She also showed a mock-up of a newsletter that will be distributed the first of next year, and a draft of the informational sign that will be unveiled at the ceremony. They may apply for a Heritage Grant in the future.

Mr. Calvin asked the group for discussion. Ms. Neil noted that cemeteries are generally harder to put on the registry.

Mr. Calvin read from the registry criteria that was listed in the HPC Ordinance; he believed the project met criteria 8 and 9 of 17.40.140A, two criteria are needed to place on registry.

Mr. Huber asked Ms. Murphy if she had any more information on Mr. Jarrell. Ms. Murphy read a few excerpts from a book containing the history of Harstine Island. The excerpts talked about Mr. Jarrell's family and travels and his permanent settlement on Harstine Island. The book also told how Ms. Jarrell donated half an acre for a cemetery in 1894 and eventually it was added on to twice.

Mr. Calvin asked for further questioning, none.

Ms. Neil made a motion to recommend to the BOCC the placement of Jarrell's Cove Cemetery on the Mason County Historic Register, citing paragraph 8 and 9 of 17.40.140A of the Mason County Historic Preservation Ordinance. Ms. Harrell seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Calvin gave Ms. Murphy recommendations about future application possibilities and information on the grant process.

Mr. MacSems gave Ms. Murphy a House of Historic Interest plaque for the cemetery (it can be exchanged for a Place of Historic Interest sign later).

Hearing closed at 2:29pm.

Announcements – Mr. MacSems mentioned the email from Washington Trust for Historic Preservation regarding the Federal Historic Tax Credit and its possible elimination in the pending federal tax reform bill. He wondered if anyone in the County was receiving those credits currently. There was general agreement from HPC members that it would be a blow to Historic Preservation if this tax credit did not get the support it needed, but no one had definitive information to add on who, if anyone, in the County has used this tax credit.

Mr. MacSems also added that he would like to go through the questions on the annual CLG Survey with the members present. Mr. Calvin replied that they could add that item to *Other* in new business.

Appreciation of Marty Harrell's Service – Mr. Calvin handed Ms. Harrell a card from the HPC members and mentioned that the members had purchased a gift for her that was on its way (not from HPC funds). They thanked her for her many years of service with the HPC and noted that she would be missed.

Discussion of HPC Membership Status & Election of New Vice Chair for the Balance of 2017 – Mr. MacSems mentioned that Mr. Huber had been reappointed by the BOCC to the Historic Preservation Commission. He did mention that the BOCC would now be interviewing potential applicants to the HPC. At the December 2017 meeting, the commission will be comprised of four members. Mr. MacSems noted that the Historical Society Newsletter will be advertising the HPC vacancies. There was discussion on who can serve on the HPC and what the requirements are for applicants outside of the County.

HPC then started nominations to replace Marty Harrell for Vice Chair.

Mr. Huber nominated Mr. Rose as Vice Chair for the balance of 2017. Ms. Harrell seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

May is Historic Preservation Month – Activity Discussion (including Building 1 Display) – Mr. Calvin talked about the outline he created for the event. He talked about contacting the Shelton Historic Preservation Commission to put the HPC on their agenda that very night. Putting the HPC on the agenda would allow Mr. Calvin to express their interest in a joint effort by both the HPC and the City of Shelton. He handed out a draft of the event outline to the group.

Mr. MacSems asked if the event would be similar to the 10th Anniversary Celebration that they put on in the past. Mr. Calvin talked about the differences. The May event would have a preservation discussion, similar to a round table. In the draft, Mr. Calvin had also noted possible topics and that the event could also be a way for different groups to explain what they are doing or what their purpose is. Ms. Neil liked the outline and the idea of a guest speaker. Mr. Huber asked who was deciding on the speaker. Mr. Calvin talked about working with the Shelton Historic Preservation Commission to make a short list of people to ask to speak.

The HPC then talked about the Bylaws stating that they can create a committee to head the May Historic Preservation Month event, establish a budget, find out what resources the Shelton Historic Preservation Commission has, and what resources they can share.

Mr. Huber said that it may be a good idea to encourage such an event as an annual occurrence with growing interest. He also mentioned that it could speak to larger trends in Historic Preservation, topics on an extended state and national level.

Ms. Neil made a motion approving Mr. Calvin to speak at the Shelton Historic Preservation Commission meeting, tonight, concerning his draft May is Historic Preservation Month outline. Mr. Huber seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Calvin talked about authorizing, today, a committee to pursue the event details.

Note: HPC is establishing a committee to plan Historic Preservation Month activities.

Mr. Calvin noted this committee will report back to the commission on findings and activities.

Mr. Calvin asked about the display that would be placed in Building 1 during the month of May. Mr. MacSems said the invitation to reserve a month had not been sent out yet. The HPC discussed possible items that could be displayed.

McReavy House Heritage Grant – Mr. MacSems mention that Ms. Kamin had sent everything in that was required for reimbursement of the project. He read off the list of deliverables, Mr. Calvin said the list sounded complete.

Ms. Neil made a motion to approve the reimbursement for the McReavy House Heritage Grant. Ms. Harrell seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Other (if Any) – The group talked about the Sargeant Oyster House Heritage Grant extension and its due date in March.

Regarding the annual CLG Survey, Mr. MacSems read out the questions on the survey sheet, answered some himself, and asked the HPC for their input or answers for other items. He asked about the program WISSARD, if members had used this software and if they thought they needed training on it. Both Mr. Huber and Ms. Neil confirmed that they used it frequently at their places of work, didn't believe they needed to request training and called support if they had questions. Group continued to discuss how the questions related to the HPC or how the HPC applied the topics for 2017. They talked about DAHP's involvement in sponsoring CLG training.

Old Business

Status of County Historic Preservation Ordinance Update (if any) – Mr. Calvin mentioned that there was not much to update on this item at the time.

Comprehensive Plan Update (if any) – Mr. Calvin mentioned that after the last meeting, he had talked to Ms. Reeves about the HPC's additions to the Comprehensive Plan Update and that he believed she had added them. Ms. Watson informed the HPC that the Comp Plan public hearing was on December 5, 2017. Ms. Neil asked Mr. Calvin if he wanted to speak at the BOCC hearing.

Ms. Neil made a motion authorizing Mr. Calvin, or other member, to speak at the Comprehensive Plan Hearing on December 5, 2017. Ms. Harrell seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Discuss the Inventory of County Owned Historic Properties – Ms. Neil reported on her research of the inventory lists. She was evaluating the lists for things that would help the County with preservation and maintenance. She narrowed the list to just buildings, their build date and location. She asked the group if there were any other important indicators that she should be looking for while continuing her research. Mr. Huber thought her current research was heading in the right direction and that eventually they could move into photos and descriptions after solidifying the dates and locations.

Ms. Neil talked about narrowing the list even further to a set of buildings that they could complete a formal survey on. She mentioned eliminating "sites" from

the list, based on the HPC's original focus. She would have more information in December.

Future Calendar Items (if any) – Mr. Calvin mentioned adding May is Historic Preservation Month for 2018. Mr. MacSems said he would add the deadline for the Winter Heritage Grant submittals. HPC briefly discussed what the deadline for the Winter and Summer cycles should be. Mr. MacSems would like to formally adjust the Winter grant deadline to avoid a conflict with the Holidays. Mr. Calvin suggested that the Heritage Grant Guidelines be amended to make the deadlines the second Friday of January and July. No motion was made, but there was general agreement and Mr. MacSems said that he would edit the Guidelines to reflect this change.

Other (if any) none

III. Other Commission Discussion

Financial Statement- HPC looked over the October 2017 financial statement, still no deposit from the Memorial Hall reimbursement.

Next Meeting Date December 14, 2017

IV. Adjournment

At 3:46 p.m. Ms. Harrell made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Huber. All in favor, meeting adjourned.