

Draft Minutes

Mason County Historic Preservation Commission

February 9, 2023

Mason County Department of Health Meeting Room

415 N. 6th Street

Shelton, WA 98584

Members Present: Ed Huber, Jann Goodpaster, Dave Dally, Bill Jensen, Caleb Cowles, and Steve Bass

Guests: Jayni Kamin (McReavy House), Josh Kaivo (Peninsula Railway & Lumberman’s Museum), and Jonelle Adams (Pickering Homemakers Club)

County Staff: Luke Viscusi and Mariah Frazier

I. Call to order

Roll Call- Mr. Huber called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Review and Approve Minutes from January 12, 2023 – Mr. Viscusi made a correction to the due date of the extended 2022 Heritage Grants, stating they are due March 29th, not January. Ms. Goodpaster made a motion to approve the January 12, 2023 minutes as amended. Mr. Cowles seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence-

- WA Trust Holiday Card
- Section 106 – Cell Tower on Brockdale Rd
- MCHS Newsletter

II. New Business

Announcements – Ms. Goodpaster gave an update on the MCHS Museum as they have been working on their inventory and researching provenance. Mr. Huber said he had attended the NAPC webinar on design review without professional preservation staff and recommended other members go watch it as it’s still available on their website.

2023 Heritage Grant Reviews – Mr. Huber had the present representatives introduce themselves and give a brief overview of their project. No representatives were present for Mason General Hospital or North Bay Historical Society. They then went on to scoring.

Scoring guidelines are as follows:

Criteria	Points
Promotes Heritage	25 possible
Public Benefit	20 possible

Capacity to Complete	15 possible
Immediate Need	15 possible
Outcomes	10 possible
Defined Budget	10 possible
Economic Benefit	5 possible
Total:	100 possible

Mason General Hospital Foundation – The Art’s Commission was requesting for \$5,000 for a photo display in their Cedar Building. With no representative present, the commission had a few questions regarding where and how the photos would be sourced and what kind of information would be available describing the photos and their relevancy to Mason County. Scoring for Mason General Hospital Foundation is as follows:

Mason General Hospital	
Criteria	Points
Promotes Heritage	20
Public Benefit	12
Capacity to Complete	15
Immediate Need	4
Outcomes	8
Defined Budget	10
Economic Benefit	2
Total:	71

McReavy House – The McReavy House was requesting \$5,000 to replace windows and provide reproduction corbels on the façade of the house. It was confirmed that their ask for \$5,000 would include taxes and shipping since the quote and budget didn’t match. Scoring for McReavy House is as follows:

McReavy House	
Criteria	Points
Promotes Heritage	25
Public Benefit	20
Capacity to Complete	15
Immediate Need	15
Outcomes	10
Defined Budget	10

Economic Benefit	5
Total:	100

North Bay Historical Society – NBHS requested \$5,000 for the restoration project of Sargent Oyster House, specifically for windows. They did not have a representative present to answer questions. Scoring for NBHS is as follows:

North Bay Historical Society	
Criteria	Points
Promotes Heritage	25
Public Benefit	15
Capacity to Complete	10
Immediate Need	15
Outcomes	10
Defined Budget	10
Economic Benefit	5
Total:	90

Peninsula Railroad & Lumberman’s Museum – The Peninsula Railroad & Lumberman’s Museum requested \$2,000 to aid in the purchase and transportation of Simpson Caboose #1201 in order to bring it back to Mason County. Scoring for Peninsula Railroad & Lumberman’s Museum is as follows:

Peninsula Railroad & Lumberman’s Museum	
Criteria	Points
Promotes Heritage	25
Public Benefit	20
Capacity to Complete	15
Immediate Need	12
Outcomes	10
Defined Budget	5
Economic Benefit	5
Total:	92

Pickering Homemakers Club – The Pickering Homemaker’s Club asked for \$5,000 to aid in cleaning and oiling the original wood floors in the Grant School. Scoring for Pickering Homemaker’s Club is as follows:

Pickering Homemakers Club	
Criteria	Points
Promotes Heritage	25
Public Benefit	20
Capacity to Complete	15
Immediate Need	15
Outcomes	10
Defined Budget	10
Economic Benefit	5
Total:	100

Award Discussion – A total of \$25,000 was budgeted for this grant cycle, with a total of \$22,000 being asked. There was discussion with Josh Kaivo of Peninsula Railway & Lumberman’s Museum regarding why they had only asked for \$2,000 instead of the max \$5,000 and whether or not the commission could grant them more than their ask amount. In the past, the commission had awarded less than the ask amount in order to fund as many projects as possible. Awarding more than what was asked for seemed to set a precedent they weren’t sure was within their rights. Mr. Huber asked Mr. Viscusi to reach out to the County Attorney or Administrator for guidance on this matter in the future.

Eventually, it was decided to be safe and award the Peninsula Railway & Lumberman’s Museum their ask of \$2,000. The other four applicants were fully funded of their asks for \$5,000. A motion was made by Mr. Dally to approve seconded by Ms. Goodpaster. All in favor, motion carried.

FY24 CLG Grant (from DAHP) – Mr. Viscusi went over the grant guidelines for the DAHP CLG grant due in April. A couple ideas were brainstormed, such as a guidebook of historical places in Mason County, or a Historical Context, but they were unsure they’d be able to meet the April due date. Since it is a yearly grant, they decided to keep it on the agenda to discuss ideas and work on a proposal for either this year or next.

Conferences/Trainings for 2023 – Mr. Viscusi mentioned registration for the Cultural Resources Summit was opening soon. Mr. Huber talked about his experiences and recommended those who want to attend do so. Mr. Viscusi and Mr. Cowles were interested in going in person, while Mr. Dally, Mr. Jensen, and Mr. Bass were interested in attending virtually. Confirmation and approval would be added to the March agenda.

Mr. Viscusi also stated the RevitalizeWA conference would be held in October if anyone was interested.

Other (if Any) – Ms. Goodpaster brought up a burnt out structure on Highway 101 and she was wondering if there was any insight on how to go about cleaning up the property. She stated the property is not on the register but was mentioned in a survey. No one had any ideas since it's not on the register but was told to contact the Health Department about possible solid waste and hulk vehicle violations.

Old Business

Historic Preservation Plaque Program – Mr. Viscusi stated that the news release was finalized and would be read on February 28th BOCC Meeting. The application is complete and available on the website, at the museum, in the Permit Center, and the Assessor's office. Mr. Cowles discussed the possibility of contacting the property owners of the newly named Rodney White Slough as a potential property.

Tax Incentives Update – Mr. Viscusi said he talked with Michelle Thompson at DAHP regarding the tax incentive program and was informed that it's already in our ordinance. Because properties on the register have to go through a Certificate of Appropriation for any work requiring a permit, that would be the best time to notify a property owner if they qualify for the exemption. It would then go to Department of Revenue to receive the proper documentation to take to the County Assessor to apply the exemption. Mr. Cowles, who works in the Assessor's office, confirmed that DOR has to inform them to apply the exemption and stated it works the same for Granges.

Other (if any) – None.

III. Other Commission Discussion

Financial Statement- HPC reviewed the statement for January 2023. Mr. Cowles made a motion to accept, seconded by Ms. Goodpaster. All in favor, motion carried.

IV. Next Meeting Date March 9, 2023

V. Adjournment

At 4:10 p.m. Mr. Huber called the meeting adjourned.

To Do:

- Mr. Viscusi – Reach out to the County Attorney or Administrator for guidance on the possibility of awarding an applicant more than the amount requested.
- Mr. Viscusi – Draft Heritage Grant contracts and get them approved by County Attorney
- Mr. Viscusi – Add Heritage Grant awards to BOCC Briefing and Action agendas.
- Mr. Cowles – Investigate the possibility of contacting the property owners of the Rodney White Slough about the Plaque Program.