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CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

COMMUNITY PLANNING

MEMO TO: Clark County Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Historical Promotion Grants committee

PREPARED BY: Sharon Lumbantobing, Planner II

DATE: November 7, 2018

REQUEST: Review of the Historical Promotion Grants Committee's recommendation to fund 5 projects for 2019 at a total amount of \$50,000

RCW 36.22.170 allows the county to impose a one-dollar surcharge to be used, at the discretion of the county councilors, to promote historical preservation or historical programs, which may include preservation of historical documents. In order to make grant funding recommendations regarding that funding source, the Historic Preservation Commission's Historic Promotion Grants subcommittee reviewed applications and is forwarding their recommendation of funding to the Historic Preservation Commission. Eight applications for 2019 grants were received in the total request amount of \$81,818. The goal of the committee was to award a total amount \$50,000 based on the fund forecast. The committee diligently reviewed the applications and recommended during its meeting on October 12, 2018, that the Historic Preservation Commission recommend to the county council to award 6 grants totaling \$50,000 as shown below:

1. **Grant name:** Shuttle Bus for Historic Tours

Organization: Clark County Historical Museum

Summary: Five collaborating agencies (Clark County Historical Museum, the Vancouver Barracks Military Association, The Historic Trust, Vancouver's Downtown Association, and Ryd) have submitted a joint proposal for a new 14-seat shuttle tour bus to serve the Vancouver and Clark County heritage region. The "Star" vehicle is all electric, enclosed, with robust heat and high powered air conditioning. The Model BN72-11-0 is ADA /Wheelchair Accessible. This shuttle tour bus will allow for a series of heritage, history and preservation experiences for local residents and visitors. A grand tour of the waterfront, downtown historic



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features, the Clark County Historical Museum, Providence Academy, the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, Pearson Field and Airport, and the Land Bridge would be the first curated tour. Specialty tours would eventually be designed for historic sites throughout Clark County or could be segmented for selected topic experiences. Each agency would take leadership responsibility for various elements of the shuttle tour bus project. CCHM, VBMA and The Trust would provide expert tour guides with carefully crafted, seamless narrations and engagement activities. This step-on/step-off tour would feature the local history at many of Clark County's vibrant, recognized and preserved historic locations. VDA would provide the promotional, marketing and communication strategies and collaterals. Ryd would house, maintain, insure the vehicle, and train the drivers in exchange for access to the bus to shuttle LSW Architects downtown employees from remote parking in the morning and after work hours (in order to alleviate downtown parking and traffic congestion). This critical public/private portion of the partnership with Ryd represents an area of collaboration that non-profits would be unlikely to manage or afford.

Request: \$30,000

Recommendation: \$19,867

Committee comments: CCHM states that they will leverage the remaining funds.

2. **Grant name:** Photograph Digitization

Organization: Two Rivers Heritage Museum (TRHM) & Vancouver Barracks Military Association (VBMA)

Summary: Joint proposal between TRHM and VBMA in collaboration with Washington State University – Vancouver (WSUV) Library, Archives, and Special Collections to digitize 2,000 photographs and negatives for long-term preservation and online access through WSU libraries. The selected photographs from the TRHM collection will represent aspects of education and industry in Camas-Washougal extending back to the 19th century, and those from VBMA will represent the period from 1942-1945. There are more than 7,500 images in the collections that need to be digitized.

Request: \$7,400

Recommendation: \$7,400

Committee comments:

3. **Grant name:** Plankhouse and Objects Organization, Protection, and Storage

Organization: Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

Summary: Based on the Chinookan village of Cathlapotle, the Refuge is now home to the Cathlapotle Plankhouse. The Plankhouse and the objects inside of it offer a tangible link to the land's original stewards and provides a unique site for the interpretation of our region's natural and cultural heritage. This is a proposal to take a full inventory of all interpretation materials and cultural items, have them formally accessioned into a professional curatorial

database, and increase the physical security of the collection. The collection consists of indigenous art and items created by local Chinook and Cowlitz artists, interpretive objects crafted by our volunteers, a selection of stone artifacts, interpretive items from the natural environment, and a small suite of artifacts on loan from the Chinook Indian Nation. Each comes with their own unique care and preservation needs. The Friends were recently designated as Preserve America Stewards, a national recognition for programs that successfully use volunteers to help care for our historic and cultural heritage.

Request: \$8,473

Recommendation: \$8,473

Committee comments:

4. **Grant name:** Docent and Guided Walk Program

Organization: Columbia Springs

Summary: Columbia Springs preserves the Historic Vancouver Trout Hatchery, which turns 80 years old this year. They preserve the story of the first gristmill, the logging of the site for Fort Vancouver, and the more recent history as a Works Progress Administration site. This proposal is for the Docent and Guided Walk program to make the site more user-friendly for guests, educate the community about the unique environmental aspects of our site, inform guests about the history of the location, and provide additional support to staff and lead volunteers. Guided Walks elevate the understanding of local history along the Old Evergreen Highway, an area with a rich legacy. Guided Walks Hotspots include: Vancouver Trout Hatchery incubation rooms, round ponds, fish feeding pond, and raceways; Wetlands; Kingfisher house; American chestnut/Western red cedar; Heron house; Stream table; East lake/meadow; Heron Loop; Cordwood classroom; Viewing deck, and; Visitors Center. The City of Vancouver supports the docent program as part of a larger grant for Education. The Columbian has been incredibly generous in advertising Guided Walks for free in 2018. With these partners, Columbia Springs expects to continue to grow the Guided Walks attendance in 2019 and beyond.

Request: \$4,000

Recommendation: \$4,000

Committee comments:

5. **Grant name:** You Are Here Map Signs

Organization: Fort Vancouver National Historic Site – National Park Service

Summary: This proposal is a request for funding to replace “You are Here” map signs throughout Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and Vancouver National Historic Reserve. These signs are essential visitor services for wayfinding and orientation. Existing signs are in very poor condition. The maps have already been redesigned to better meet National Park Services and ADA/ABAAS standards, and are ready for fabrication and installation.

Request: \$8,625

Recommendation: \$8,625

6. **Grant name:** Purchase of TV and DVD player and electrical upgrades

Organization: North Clark Historical Museum

Summary: This project includes the purchase of a flat screen TV, mounting bracket, and DVD player to be installed in the basement. The equipment will be used to play various videos pertaining to the area history, including, but not limited to past museum events, interviews, and the "Legacy DVD", which recorded the renovation of the 1910 church building. A digital recorder will be purchased to record interviews and meetings. Also included in the project are electrical upgrades. Work will include adding quad plugs for display cabinets; install a wireless switch for existing display case lighting; add one basement ceiling light; and replace five emergency exit lights. All track light bulbs will be replaced with LED dimmable bulbs.

Request: \$4,445

Recommendation: \$1,635

Committee comments: A lot of electrical work is requested that is not directly related. HPC proposed to fund materials, supplies, and equipment (\$1,065) plus electrical upgrades that directly support the AV project (quad plugs) \$570 (total \$1,635). NCHM replied that they would like to use this funding for the electrical upgrades. The commission will need to determine what to recommend to council.

Overall total Recommended For Funding: **\$50,000**

The following projects were not recommended for grant funds.

1. **Grant name:** Main Street Conference Scholarship
Organization: Washington Trust for Historic Preservation
Request: \$5,940 **Recommendation:** \$0
Committee comments: Did not meet the selection criteria

2. **Grant Name:** Historic Timeline of Hunger Relief Efforts
Organization: Clark County Food Bank
Request: \$12,000 **Recommendation:** \$0
Committee comments: Did not meet the selection criteria