



Meeting Notes

Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017 - 6:00 p.m.

(These are summary, not verbatim, minutes. Audio recordings are available on the Historic Preservation Commission's page at www.clark.wa.gov/community-planning/historic-preservation-commission.)

Member Present:	Robert Hinds, Mark Pelletier, Sarah Fox, Roch Manley, Sean Denniston, Rob Heaney and Alex Gall
Members Excused:	
Staff Present:	Jacqui Kamp and Chris Cook (Clark County); Jon Wagner (City of Vancouver)
Guests:	See sign in sheet

I. Roll Call & Introductions: Commission members and staff introduced themselves.

II. Public Hearing:

HST2017-00004 - Jefferson Davis Highway Marker: Consideration of removing the marker from the Clark County Heritage Register

- Jacqui Kamp, County Planner III, provided the Clark County Department of Community Planning Staff Report to the Historic Preservation Commission dated Sept. 20, 2017. The staff report, pictures of the site, previous case files, the nomination, information about the Jefferson Davis Highway from the Federal Highway Administration and comments received are attached as exhibits.
- Kamp corrected the information in the staff report regarding the flags that are flying at the site. There are three flags, one confederate flag, a first national confederate flag and a Bonny Blue flag.
- Kamp also provided the information from Clark County Code 40.250.030(F)(4)(b), "In the event that any property is no longer deemed appropriate for designation to the Clark County Heritage Register, the commission may initiate removal from such designation by the same procedure as provided for in establishing the designation.
- Robert Hinds, Chair, asked Chris Cook, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney to review the criteria required for the commission's review of this case.
- Cook stated the criteria: Any building, structure, site, object or district may be designated for inclusion in the CCHR if it is significantly associated with the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering or cultural heritage of the community; if it has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association; is at least fifty (50) years old, or is of lesser age and has exceptional importance. The property(ies) must meet the above as well as fall into at least one (1) of the additional categories. The decision must be based on the criteria and the findings will be based on the criteria.

- Cook explained if while reviewing the criteria it may be difficult to make a yes or no determination and that it can be helpful to look at the purpose statement in 40.250.030(A). It can't be substituted for the criteria, but it can help with understanding the criteria.
- Cook explained that the marker is an object, not a property. The Jefferson Davis Park is the name of the park. It is not a public park; it is not maintained by the county or supported by the county except that it is listed on the register.
- The commission must make the decision based on the criteria.
- Rob Heaney clarified that the commission is to review the nomination on its merit and that they may find error with a previous commission's decision.
- Mark Pelletier stated that there is a question floating in the community that the status of the marker on the register could provide funding options. Cook explained that this is an object, not real property. If there were real property taxes associated with it that would be different. It is not real property, therefore cannot have any tax abatement associated with it.
- Robert Hinds asked Kamp questions regarding the 2002 nomination. Kamp explained that there was nothing more in the file that showed an amended nomination. Normal procedure is to have the nomination form signed when approved and that was not found either.
- Alex Gall asked if we had the text written out from the plaque at the marker that provides information about the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Kamp stated that all we had was the photograph. The plaque was part of the condition of approval for the 2007 Certificate of Appropriateness for the relocation of the marker.
- The Chair invited the public to provide testimony. 32 people provided oral testimony. Please refer to the Findings document for that testimony.
- The Clark County Historic Preservation Commission voted (6-0), to remove the Jefferson Davis Highway Marker from the Clark County Heritage Register. (Please refer to the Findings document for details on the deliberation.)

III. Old Business and Updates

- **Council presentations:** The HPC has presented to the County Council and the Vancouver City Council. Both went well. Jacqui will check in with HPC members when their presentations to the other councils get closer.

IV. New Business

- **1889 La Center House:** Jacqui briefed the HPC on the house in La Center that was built in 1889 by a Portland timber baron as his summer home. The current owners bought the property and do not want to live in the house. They would like to put a manufactured house on the property and live on a one-level home. Per county code they cannot have two dwellings on one lot. Staff has been trying to help them find someone to relocate the building. They have been talking to the Washington Trust and DAHP. Alex suggested documenting the home, photographing. There was discussion about using some of the HPC outreach funds if any were left to hire someone to do this.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.