MEETING NOTES
Wednesday, September 4, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.
6th Floor Hearing Room, 1300 Franklin St., Vancouver, WA

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.

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<th>Members Present:</th>
<th>Julie Bohn, Sean Denniston, Alex Gall, Michelle Kapitanovich, Roch Manley, and Andy Gregg</th>
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<td>Members Absent (Excused):</td>
<td>Donald Trost</td>
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<td>Staff Present:</td>
<td>Jacqui Kamp and Sharon Lumbantobing (Clark County) and Jan Bader and Mark Person, Jason Nortz, and Sree Thirunagari (City of Vancouver)</td>
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<td>Guests:</td>
<td>Holly Chamberlain, Aaron Wigod, Annie Weizenecker, and Mike Williams</td>
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1. **Roll Call & Introductions:** Commission members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

2. **Approval of the Meeting Minutes from August 7, 2019.** Sean made a motion to approve the minutes with typographical edits and Michelle seconded. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. **Vancouver Heritage Overlay: The Academy Building (House of Providence)** - informational discussion on the condition of Laundry and Boiler buildings, and the Smokestack at the Academy. What the plan is moving forward and how to handle some of the issues at the site.
   - City staff met with Trust to discuss the structures and their conditions and asked for structural engineering information to assist with information to move forward with either retrofitting or if the structures are unsafe and demo is necessary
   - City received reports addressing the concerns of the three buildings
   - Outcomes were that all three showed signs of structural deterioration; acknowledgement that boiler is no longer being used as a buttress for the smokestack; and that the smokestack is highly susceptible to collapse with a minor earthquake
   - They have determined that there is no immediate threat with current conditions, but that they are in such a state that city needs to take action
• City has requested that the Trust develop a plan on next steps for structures with deadline of March 2020. The plan will then be presented to the HPC.

• Questions from HPC:
  o Where is the project with SEPA process? It is in a qualified project action area which does not require SEPA. All land use entitlements have been approved. Next steps will be building permits.
  o When will site prep start? Realistically 1st/2nd quarter of next year
  o The fact that there is heavy machinery on site, has that factored into the discussion. Has that been considered? The city will be looking at the impact it will have on the site. Will be looking at that for future development of the site.

• Can we review the structural engineering reports? Yes, they will be sent to staff for distribution to commission.

• Has there been any discussion of the broader management plan for the larger campus? One issue was the concern that development around the Academy will begin piecemeal and there is no 20,000 foot look to look at it as a whole and protecting what’s there. Has there been discussion? They will begin process of updating the downtown plan which will incorporate that area. A lot of that area is currently being redevelopment, to the North.

• How does the public process factor in once a proposal has come in; the smoke stack is iconic. With a proposal, how does the public find out what the plan is? Could work to be proactive on public outreach opportunities and noticing of proposals.

• No stabilization has been done, is there a stabilization regime. It would be good to see that in the proposal in March or we will be looking at a classic case of demolition by neglect.

• Action Item: City of Vancouver staff to email engineering reports to county staff to distribute to commission.

4. New Business

• Historic Promotion Grant application deadline is September 13. A Historic Promotion Grant selection committee needs to be formed with 3 HPC members.
  o Michelle, Julie, and Andy volunteered. Pat Jollota has also agreed to participate on the selection committee again this year.
  o Sean requested to see the final reporting form that is required from grantees. Staff will email to the commission.
  o Action Item: Staff to distribute HPG final grant report to commission. Staff to schedule committee meeting.

5. Old Business

• Demolition Committee: Next Steps. Sean, Alex, and Don met and have drafted a committee recommendation for the commission review. SEPA is a big part of that to address the built environment along with the cultural environment. Idea was to leverage with what we already do.
  o Changes could include properties on all registers and inventories to go through SEPA and what mitigation steps would be required; i.e. plaques, interpretation, relocating, etc.
  o Requiring that the cultural resource inventory should be updated every 5 years
  o HPC can add properties to inventory any time with majority vote
- All buildings older than 50 years old should be demo delay for 45 days where advocates could participate in advocating at a hearing in front of the HPC
- Minimal level of documentation for all demolitions (photos of elevations) and would be archived with county GIS
- HPC to review and provide feedback and comment for discussion at next meeting
- Staff will review recommendations and research any issues related to legal processes
- Holly Chamberlain – documents on WISAARD, variety of level of quality, information could be utilized; There is a lot of Clark County information on WISAARD, such as the inventory
- **Action Item:** Staff to email demo recommendation with date stamp to commission

- **Rules and Procedures Update:** HPC provided comments and feedback on the process for National Register of Historic Places review by HPC.
  - **Action Item:** Staff will make revisions discussed and bring back to the October meeting for review

6. **Public Comment:**
   - Holly Chamberlain: Deadline for Valerie Sivinski grant is Oct. 15, 2019 – please share with networks
   - Jan Bader: City of Vancouver will be submitting a nomination for the Old Library building. They are also working on a nomination for the Old City Cemetery.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.