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CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY PLANNING**

**CLARK COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Meeting Held: November 3, 2015

Member Present:	Robert Hinds, Sarah Fox, Shell McKedy
Members Excused:	Alex Gall, Roch Manley
Staff Present:	Greg Turner and Bryan Monroe (City of Vancouver)
Volunteers:	
Guests:	Rob Freed, Holly Chamberlain, Mark Dodd and Dean Irvin

I. Roll Call & Introductions - Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

II. October 6, 2015 Minutes Approved:

Sarah made a motion to approve the Oct. 6, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Robert. The approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

III. Public Hearings

- **Luepke Building – 1300 Washington Street, Vancouver: Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:** Greg Turner, City of Vancouver presented the staff report for the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The building was listed in the Clark County Heritage Register in May of 2015. The staff report indicates why the building meets the criteria for National Register listing. The staff recommends that the HPC forward a favorable recommendation to the state for the nomination. Holly Chamberlain, the author of the nomination, stated that the only difference between the CCHR nomination and the NR nomination had to do with the interior renovations that had taken place between then and now which is reflected in the NR nomination form.
 - Shell asked what changes had been made. Holly stated that the largest was the demolition of the original boiler room to make more space available. In the mezzanine space, an office was removed/partitions removed.
 - Sarah made a motion to recommend approval of the nomination of the Luepke Building to the National Register of Historic Places with the fix of a typo on the form. Shell seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **Arts Building – 1104 Main Street, Vancouver: Nomination to the Clark County Heritage Register:** Bryan Monroe, City of Vancouver presented the staff report for the nomination to the Clark County Heritage Register. The staff report indicates why the building meets the criteria for CCHR listing. The staff recommends that the HPC approve the nomination for listing in the Clark County Heritage Register.
 - Shell asked about other buildings the builder, Peter Johnson had built. Bryan referenced the nomination which states that Johnson was involved with such buildings as the American Legion building, Arnada School, Evergreen Hotel, Columbian building, all in Vancouver. He did the Odd Fellows Hall in Centralia, among others throughout the region.
 - Mark Dodd stated that his big claim to fame is the Evergreen Hotel. The unique thing about this building is that it was built and used as a hospital. It had all the state of the art appliances and forced air (oxygen). The buildings' interior had stub nose for safety. It was

built with the cooperation with many medical professionals. Not sure why it was called the "Arts Building". The interior has been mainly gutted. It has had the same exterior look over the years.

- Shell stated that the preservation effort has been well done. She shared how the elevator is tiny and wanted Mark to talk about the elevator story. She would like the story to be shared with visitors of the building. Mark said that they were proud of the elevator that it was large enough to place cots/gurneys in there. A selling point was that they could comfortably transport people in the elevator.
- Robert asked whether the building ever operated as an emergency care or used as a hospital? Mark stated that the upper floor had been used by surgeons.
- Robert asked about the Beaux-Arts design and if there was any information about the inspiration for the design as it is different than other Hilborn buildings. Mark talked about Hilborn's time in Europe and when he moved back to Washington and went to Washington State, he studied under an architectural professor that had a specialty in Beaux-Arts.
- Rob Freed, asked about the original sash windows. Dean stated that the windows glass panels had been changed in 1978. Rob stated that he had been a tenant in the building for many years and that the windows area a concern for him. Sarah mentioned putting something more specific in the nomination so that when this building is reviewed by them in the future, they have a clear understanding of the significant features.
- The commission discussed plaque options.
- Robert stated that he and Shell were able to tour the property. The building is remarkably intact except for changes that were made in 1978 which are detailed in the nomination. The penthouse and the sunroom in his opinion do not match the design of the buildings and although it does not detract from the integrity of the building overall, he wanted it noted. Shell agreed.
- Sarah made a motion to approve the Arts Building to be listed in the Clark County Heritage Register. Shell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

IV. Old Business & Updates

- **Mobile app update:** will report next month

V. New Business & Announcements

- **2016 Historical Promotion Grant recommendation review: Review of HPC subcommittee recommendation of grant awards:** Robert explained that they convened a subcommittee to review the grant applications in which Sarah and Roch participated. Sarah explained that there were 5 on the committee that discussed the applications. There were quite a few from the railroad and the committee weighed which projects would be full funded or partially funded. For example the track project for the RR was only requesting costs for the materials as all the labor would be done by volunteers, therefore full funding was given to that project. The committee was impressed with the Academy interpretation project and is excited to see that project come along. The committee noted that they would like to see interpretation on the outside as well as the inside to tell the story of the building. The museum has an interesting project on digitization. It was suggested by the committee to phase this project to two years. The other was the North Clark County Historical Museum for transferring oral histories and other files. They are also working on a filing infrastructure. We were thinking that it would be helpful if maybe the North Clark County Historical Museum could partner with the Clark County Historical Museum on the digitization and save costs.
- Shell asked if all the projects received funding. Sarah stated that they did, however not all were fully funded.
- The commission discussed various details of the proposals.

- Rob Freed suggested that the interpretive panels/displays for the Academy utilize appropriate materials that will withstand the elements of the weather.
- The two museum proposals were discussed on the different ways of digitization.
- Robert made a recommendation to approve the recommendations and forward them to the BOCC for approval. Shell seconded. All were in favor.

VI. Public Comment –

- Rob Freed wanted to give the HPC an update of the Poor Farm. He explained a bit of the history of the master plan for the farm. He sat on the sounding board that worked on the master plan. An advisory board was then put in place to review new proposals. The staff person from the county that administered the advisory board has moved on to a job in Portland. The advisory board is in limbo until they hire a new staff or after the elections. A foundation has been started to raise money for the site. Rob mentioned how Jacqui has worked on getting grants to the property, like the trail interpretive plan. The foundation would like to find funds to develop the trail to provide more public access.
- Mark Dodd shared that the Vancouver Historic Reserve information center will reopen on Nov. 14. Everyone is invited to attend the grand opening from 1-4pm.

VII. Adjournment