



Meeting Notes

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 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:	Sharon Lumbantobing (Clark County); Jan Bader (City of Vancouver)
Guests:	Jeff Zawada

- I. **Roll Call & Introductions:** Commission members and staff introduced themselves.
- II. **Approval of the Meeting Minutes from Oct 3, 2017:** Rock Manley was absent on Oct 3 but is listed as present. Sarah made the motion to approve the minutes with edits. Sean seconded. All commission members approved the minutes with edits.
- III. **Old Business & Updates:**
 - I) **Adopt findings for Jefferson Davis Highway Marker decision.** Sarah Fox raised concern about: 1) the verbatim testimony in the Testimony section from Nov 1, 2017, and that there are typos and that it might not reflect all of the written testimony that was submitted. The practice in other cities is to make a statement under the heading "Testimony" such as: "X number of people testified during the public testimony. The audio recording of the testimony is available on file at Clark County Community Planning." 2) The Discussion section doesn't capture the written notes submitted by some commission members, some of the typos should be corrected. 3) The numbering in the Summary section needs to be corrected. The HPC discussed having these revisions made before voting to approve it at the next meeting. Fox stated that she could agree with the findings and motion if the other edits were made. Hinds stated that the Jefferson Davis marker has already been removed from the record. Nov 15 is the deadline for filing an appeal to the Superior Court.
 - o Sarah made a motion to: 1) correct several typos (numbering) in the Summary, and 2) remove the text in Section II (Testimony) and replace it with the following statement: "X number of people testified during the public testimony. The audio recording of the testimony is available at Clark County Community Planning". 3) Section III (Discussion) should be edited to properly reflect the summary of the discussion and 4) Revise Section IV (Findings and Motion) to include a list of bullet points that summarize the findings and that relates to the code that the decision is based on, and 5) bring it back to the HPC for approval at the next meeting.
 - o Alex seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Jan Bader and Sarah Fox stated that their jurisdictions only included summary statements, not verbatim testimony.
 - HPC Commissioners will send edits to staff.
- 2) **2018 Historical Promotion Grant recommendations:** Sean Denniston summarized the subcommittee's grant recommendations. Sean stated that the subcommittee used a ranking system based on several criteria to evaluate the proposals. Some grant requests were fulfilled in full and some grant requests were approved in a lesser amount than what was originally requested, so that we could spread out the funding to as many proposals as possible. Not all grant applications were funded. We also provided staff with input on how grantees could make their grant applications better next year.

Roch made a motion to approve the grant recommendations of the Historic Promotions Grant committee. Sarah Fox seconded. The subcommittee's grant recommendations were unanimously approved. Alex Gall left the meeting.

- 3) **Council presentations update:** The HPC has presented to the County Council and the following city councils: Vancouver, Washougal, Battle Ground, Ridgefield and Camas. The HPC will present to La Center city council on Nov 8 and the town of Yacolt on Nov 20. A suggestion was made to add a ppt slide to address myth busters about properties being on the county's historic register. People always assume that they can't paint their house any color they want if it's on the register. Rob Hinds spoke about being an architect on the renovation of the historic Summit Lodge at the Ridgefield presentation, and how the property being on the register brought benefits to the project and how it turned out. It would be good to give the HPC presentations to the councils every 3-4 years because council members change. It might also been good to give the councils a short annual update on what the HPC has accomplished every year.
- 4) **Rules and Procedures/Code revision update:** Staff is working on this and it will come before the HPC soon. Sean stated that the integrity criteria is worded in an unclear way and some of the properties on the register would not qualify based on how "integrity" is worded. Sean stated he would be interested to participate on a subcommittee to help rewrite code sections.

IV. New Business

- **2020 National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) Forum – Tacoma application:** Jan Bader stated that Tacoma submitted an application to host the forum. Forum organizers are asking if other jurisdictions are interested in providing volunteers or funding for the forum. In 2017, the HPC provided \$1,000 for the CAMP training. The NAPC has never had a conference in the Pacific Northwest. HPC agrees that Jan can write a letter to the NAPC organizers to express the HPC's support for the forum, in general terms without committing specific dollar amounts or volunteers.
- **Clark County Historical Museum's 2018 Walking Tours:** Brad Richardson, Executive Director of the Museum, is open to having the HPC provide additional text for their walking tour series to provide more detail about the architectural features of the properties. Sean Denniston, Rob Heaney, and Roch Manley expressed interest in assisting with and reviewing text that staff prepares for this.
- **2018 Budget –** discussion on the HPC budget for 2019-2020 will begin at the HPC's December meeting. Commission members should come to the next HPC meeting with ideas, including funding interpretive panels for Camas and La Center.

- **Open Government Training** on the Open Public Meetings and Public Records. This 2-hour webinar needs to be done every four years. Several new HPC commission members need to do this training. Staff will send them a link to the training by email.
- **1889 La Center House:** Staff notified the Washington Trust for Historic Places about this property being available for free and they advertised the house on their website. The Columbian and Curbed magazine ran articles. Following this, the homeowner received over 50 calls and 15 people toured the home at an Open House. There are four prospective buyers, one who is pursuing securing a mortgage and proposes to move the house 1.5 miles away. Staff proposes to put the home on the Cultural Resources Inventory by the end of the year and at a later date discuss with the new owners about the advantages of being on the county's historic register. Sarah and Sean, Rob Heaney and Roch are interested to assist with the Cultural Resources Inventory.
- **Hough Neighborhood Association** wants to make their neighborhood a local historic neighborhood. It's already listed on the state register as a historic neighborhood. The City of Vancouver staff stated that they do not have time to do this right now. Code requires that 50% of the homeowners in the neighborhood have to agree to be on the register and design guidelines have to be developed and agreed to by the neighborhood association. City staff doesn't have time to develop the design guidelines right now. The Neighborhood Association is not taking "no" for an answer and this may come before the HPC. Sarah Fox suggested that the code language requiring design guidelines might be prohibitive for community groups to propose establish historic districts.
- There is a new Executive Director at the Clark County Historical Museum, Brad Richardson.

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.