

Minutes

Mason County Historic Preservation Commission

October 12, 2017

**Mason County Department of Health Meeting Room
415 N. 6th Street
Shelton, WA 98584**

Members Present: Ed Huber, Stephanie Neil, Steve Rose, and Rick Calvin

Members Excused: Marty Harrell and David Willard

County Staff: Michael MacSems and Marissa Watson

I. Call to order

Roll Call- Mr. Calvin called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Review and Approve Minutes from September 14, 2017 – Mr. Huber made a motion to approve the September 14, 2017 minutes as presented. Mr. Rose seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence-

- Resignation of David Willard from HPC
- September/October Historical Society Newsletter
- Columbia (Fall Edition)

II. New Business

Announcements – Mr. MacSems mentioned a card for HPC members to sign regarding the departure of a long time member from the HPC.

He also gave out a packet for the November 9, 2017 hearing to consider the designation of the Jarrell's Cove Cemetery as an historic site on the Mason County Historic Register. The applicant is the Harstine Island Community Club and the owner of the cemetery is Mason County.

May is Historic Preservation Month – Activity Discussion – Mr. Calvin stated that he hadn't been able to complete an outline yet and that he hoped to bring one to the next meeting.

Other (if any) – Mr. MacSems mentioned that so far, only one application for the appointment of a Historic Preservation Commission member had been received, this was Mr. Huber's.

Ms. Neil made a motion to recommend Mr. Huber's reappointment to the Historic Preservation Commission. Mr. Rose seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Ms. Neil asked how many members the HPC will have after Ms. Harrell's departure and Mr. Willard's resignation. Mr. MacSems answered that the HPC

will have four members. Ms. Neil asked if there was further advertisement they could participate in. Mr. MacSems stated that he had read the news release seeking new member before the BOCC, in early September and the announcement was published in the Mason County Journal and The Sun. He did mention the possibility of contacting Mason County Historical Society directly in hopes of finding new members.

Old Business

Status of County Historic Preservation Ordinance Update (if any) – Mr. Calvin had no further updates on this topic, at this time, he had been working on the HPC's submissions and language to be included in the Mason County Comprehensive Plan.

Comprehensive Plan Update (if any) – Mr. Calvin mentioned he had received the input from HPC members on the group's desires for Historic Preservation language in the Comprehensive Plan. He mentioned that he had looked at the current version of the Comprehensive Plan online and compared to the older version, as well as searched for the HPC's desired additions that were submitted to the BOCC. He had a couple of comments that he wanted to share with the commission members. The definition of traditional cultural landscapes and places had been added to the Comp Plan. A Historical Preservation category was added to Chapter 2, Countywide Planning Policies. But the recommendation to add traditional cultural places to CWWP 9.1 was not added. Objective 151 says "Development in areas that contain potentially valuable historical/cultural features should be in compliance with RCW 27.44 (Indian Graves and Records) and RCW 27.53 (Archeological Sites and Records)." Mr. Calvin and HPC discussed whether "should" be revised to "shall", in the previous statement. The suggested addition of "Develop a comprehensive historic preservation plan for Mason County" was not found in the new Comprehensive Plan as well.

Ms. Neil believed that the historic preservation plan was the most important addition to push through to the BOCC. Mr. Calvin and Ms. Neil agreed that they should talk to Ms. Reeves, Community Services Planning Manager, about the inclusion of the comprehensive historic preservation.

Discuss the Inventory of County Owned Historic Properties – Ms. Neil mentioned that she started pulling out items of interest from the inventory that was provided to them from Mr. Pinter. It seemed like there weren't many buildings on the list, she mentioned it might be beneficial to start grouping them either as buildings or sites. There was a question about how many historic parks; some have more archaeological sites than others.

There was a side suggestion to send surveys to property owners with suggested maintenance plans.

Mr. Huber asked if the list was all the inventory in the County. Ms. Neil said that it was a pretty good list, also mentioned looking at them physically, but wondered how scattered they were from each other. Mr. Calvin noted that 39 properties were owned in the County; he wondered if there was enough information to

determine if some were 50 years old or greater. Ms. Neil noted that that should be pretty easy to determine. Mr. Huber agreed they needed the year built data. Mr. Calvin questioned that there were only 39 buildings in the inventory. Mr. Rose mentioned that number may not include raw acreage. Mr. MacSems said that the item listing “land parcels” could include several different acreages. Ms. Neil noted that Kamilche Cemetery was not on the list, though it is owned by the County.

Mr. Huber mentioned using tax sifter to further search out County owned property and talked with Mr. MacSems about search criteria that could be used to make that search simpler. Ms. Neil would start pulling the buildings out of the inventory list, look at the data online, and start a spreadsheet. She also noted that the HPC should make a list of what was of most interest for them to investigate. Mr. Rose noted that he would do foot work and go out to sites, if that was needed. Ms. Neil agreed that there might be more sites under the “land parcels” category. Mr. Calvin asked for any other discussion on this item. Present HPC members agreed they would have to do more research on the items pulled from the list and online, in order to have more confidence in a solid inventory.

Website Update (if any) – Mr. MacSems mentioned that there was now a calendar on the HPC’s website, events just have to be added. Mr. Huber added that it may be advantageous, in the future, to add links to other, related organization’s calendars.

Other (if any) – HPC discussed County social media policy, if the group had their own social media site they would have to personally, actively manage it. Mr. MacSems stated that a County employee would have to maintain the site. Mr. Rose mentioned buying ad space on social media, and talked about “Likes” and the ability to share the site with others. Mr. Calvin added that this may be a discussion for a later date.

III. Other Commission Discussion

Financial Statement- HPC looked over September 2017 statement, reimbursement from Memorial Hall Project Grant was not yet found. Mr. MacSems stated that they could inquire about the reimbursement if they don’t see it within a statement by January 2018.

IV. Next Meeting Date November 9, 2017

V. Adjournment

At 3:02 p.m. Mr. Rose made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Ms. Neil. All in favor, meeting adjourned.