

MEETING NOTES

Thurston County Historic Commission
Wednesday, January 08, 2020
Thurston County Community Planning & Economic Development
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Bldg.1, Room 280, Olympia, WA 98502

Members & Alternates Present: Sandy Crowell, Rob Kirkwood, Charlie Roe, Daniel Graves, Ken Balsley, Chris Colton, Beth Mathews, Paul Hooper

Members & Alternates Absent: Ruth King

Chairing: Rob Kirkwood

Staff Present: Sonja Cady, Community Planning & Economic Development
Jeremy Davis Community Planning & Economic Development

Guests: Adam Rorabaugh

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. by Chair Kirkwood.

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Attendance

Attendance of the Historic Commission was noted by Staff.

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Balsley moved to approve the January 08, 2020 agenda. Commissioner Colton seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Meeting Notes

Commissioner Kirkwood recommended staff amend the November 13, 2019 minutes on page two to strike out “due to lack of funds” in regard to the Olympia Arts + Heritage Alliance not receiving HC recommendation, the Commission agreed. Commissioner Balsley moved to approve the December 22, 2019 minutes as amended. Commissioner Graves seconded. Motion carried.

B. Introduction of New Member

Commissioner Kirkwood welcomed the newest member, Paul Hooper, to the Historic Commission. Members and staff gave brief introductions of themselves to Commissioner Hooper, and a guest attendee Adam Rorabaugh was introduced.

C. Election of Officers

Commissioner Colton recalled that the Commission decided in 2019 that the Vice Chair would become the chair after 2 years. A short discussion ensued.

Commissioner Balsley made a motion to elect Commissioner Kirkwood as Chair. Commissioner Mathews seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Balsley made a motion to elect Commissioner Mathews as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Crowell seconded. Motion Carried

Commissioner Colton asked the status on Commissioner King's attendance, staff informed the group that Commissioner King will be unable to attend meetings physically until March at the earliest. Staff suggested Commissioner King be allowed to attend meetings telephonically until she can attend, the Commission agreed that she be allowed to do so for the next meeting. Commissioner Colton also asked to add this topic to the next agenda so that the Commission may establish clear rules of practice regarding when any Commission member can utilize the option to attend telephonically. Staff will create a draft of the rules of procedure and route to the Commission prior to the February 12, 2020 meeting.

Commissioner Colton made a motion to allow Commissioner King to phone in telephonically to the next meeting. Commissioner Graves seconded. Motion Carried.

D. 2020 BUDGET

The Commission received a table of past and current projects and were asked to review and estimate a cost for each for 2020. Discussions continued about each project, the following project cost estimates are as follows: Historic Tour Brochure \$0, Stairwell Picture Replacement and Banner \$1,000, Birthday Celebration/County Fair \$500, Joint Meeting with Other Commissions \$1,500, Historic Register Verification \$0, Historic Signs \$6,000, Heritage Grant Program (wait until June to determine grant amount) Deschutes Falls Park \$0 (because it is complete), Book Lecture Series \$1,000, for a total of \$10,000. The Commission agreed to revisit the budget in June.

The Commission asked staff to inquire whether there is a current fee for storage of the Historic Commissions supplies, staff will check with Thurston County Facilities. Staff will also contact the County Fair grounds to inquire whether there is a fee to use the Fairgrounds Heritage Hall conference room for the Joint meeting.

Commissioner Kirkwood requested the Birthday Celebration/Other Events name be changed to Birthday Celebration/County Fair, agreed.

Commissioner Graves made a motion to approve the 2020 budget. Commissioner Crowell seconded. Motion Carried. Commissioner Colton moved to amend the motion to approve the 2020 budget and be revisited in June. Motion carried.

E. HISTORY BOOK GRANT RECOMMENDATION

Commissioner Roe recused himself. Commissioner Graves reviewed the sub-committee's recommendation to award the book grant to the Olympia Historical Society Bigelow House. The three main reason being the sub-committee's belief that the Olympia Historical Society has broader outreach, more opportunity for book retrieval due to the fact that they are run by volunteers, and work cooperation proposed by the Olympia Historical Society that would allow TCHC to have more oversight on sales. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Balsley made a motion to call the item to vote. Commissioner Crowell made a motion to award the book grant to the Olympia Historical Society Bigelow House. Commissioner Graves seconded. Called to vote, 4 members were in favor and 2 opposed. Motion carried.

F. CAMPCORE TRAINING DISCUSSION

This item was carried over from the previous agenda, it is a training on historic building preservation. Commissioner Kirkwood requested that staff resend the information regarding the CAMPCore as a refresher.

Commissioner Mathews suggested the group attend a training put on by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions held in Tacoma in July of 2020. She will send the information to staff to be routed to the entire Commission.

G. CLG TRAINING UPDATE

Commissioners Kirkwood and Mathews had attended a CLG training on historic building and archeological preservation, he would like to see the Commission receive more CLG training to aid in the promotion of historic and cultural preservation in Thurston County.

H. REPORT ON STAIRWELL PICTURE REPLACEMENT AND BANNER

Commissioner Kirkwood updated the Commission on his progress with the stairwell picture project. Each picture will be \$90 to print, and all the original photos can be located with the exception of the fish trap photo, which was not taken in Thurston County, and the Tenino Quarry photo may not be available. Staff will need to get approval from the Board of County Commissioners once the Historic Commission has selected photos.

Commissioner Kirkwood presented the banner he had printed for the Commission and asked staff to provide a Thurston County logo.

I. STAFF UPDATES

Mr. Davis informed the Commission that the Heritage Grant Program applications will be awarded by the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on January 14, 2020. There will also be a briefing with the BoCC regarding the Book grant, staff will send an invite to the Historic Commission, authors, and Olympia Historical Society to the briefing which is anticipated to be in February.

J. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

The Commission discussed the following projects:

- History Tour Brochure/App – (Charlie, Ken) Commissioner Balsley asked to be added to the subcommittee. Commissioner Kirkwood requested staff research how many brochures were printed in 2019 and how many are on hand. Commissioner Roe asked to have the project be removed from updates.
- Joint Meetings with Other Commissions – (Charlie, Sandy Rob, Beth, Ruth) The Commission would like to see this project become a top priority. Commissioner Kirkwood suggested the joint meeting take place in September. Also, to find a speaker to speak during the meeting. Outreach Committee/Birthday Celebration County Fair (Ruth, Rob, Ken) changed name to include “County Fair”, Commissioner Balsley asked to be added.
- Historic Register Verification – (Chris, Beth) Staff will coordinate with Commissioner Colton to verify the current list
- Historic Signs - three historic ballrooms, joint marker with tribes – (Sandy, Ken, Daniel) Commissioner Balsley and Commissioner Graves have contacted the property owners where the Evergreen Ballroom was located and are getting positive feedback on placing a sign there. Commissioner Crowell updated that the Chehalis tribe has agreed tentatively to work on joint markers.
- Heritage Grant Program – (Rob, Ruth, Ken, Chris, (Charlie- alternate) Remove Beth.
- Deschutes Fall Park –(Chris) Commissioner Colton asked to remove the Deschutes Falls park from the updates.
- Book Lecture Series: (Sandy, Chris, Daniel) on hold.

K. OTHER BUSINESS

- Commissioner Kirkwood shared that the brick restoration and reroof to the Oly Brewhouse has been completed.
- Commissioner Colton informed the group that there will be a lecture on Saturday in Tenino about how the city got its name, there will be an article about it published in the New Yorker.
- Commissioner Balsley asked staff about OPMA trainings and requested staff update the Committee on training.

L. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Prepared by Sonja Cady, Historic Commission staff.