

## MEETING NOTES

Thurston County Historic Commission  
Wednesday, August 12, 2020  
Thurston County Community Planning & Economic Development  
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Bldg.1, Room 280, Olympia, WA 98502

**Members & Alternates Present:** Rob Kirkwood, Charlie Roe, Ken Balsley, Paul Hooper, Grace Edwards, Beth Mathews

**Members & Alternates Absent:**

**Chairing:** Rob Kirkwood

**Staff Present:** Sonja Cady, Community Planning & Economic Development

**Guests:**

### 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 Kirkwood requested adding a discussion on Thurston County Code and historic barns To the agenda. Commissioner Balsley moved to approve the amended August 12, 2020 agenda. Commissioner Hooper seconded. Motion carried.**

##### **3. Approval of Meeting Notes**

**Commissioner Balsley moved to approve the May 13, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Roe seconded. Motion carried.**

#### **B. CLG Grant Application Update**

Commissioner Kirkwood informed the Commission members that he, Commissioner Mathews, Mr. Davis, and Ms. Cady presented the CLG grant application to the CLG grant interview committee. The HC is requesting a grant to hire a consultant to update the Thurston County Historic Register. County staff will be informed by the end of the month whether the application is approved or not. Mr. Davis added that there is also the potential

for a partial grant. Commissioner Mathews suggested using some of the Historic Commission budget to hire a consultant if the CLG grant is not awarded.

### **C. Update on Heritage Grant Program**

Mr. Davis gave an update on the amendments to the Heritage Grant application and guidelines that staff, Commissioner Roe and Commissioner Kirkwood had worked on. The amendments include more detail and a more extensive review process on capital projects. The intent is to ensure applicants are aware of guidelines to and materials used to maintain the historic integrity of properties so they can remain on the register.

The County's legal department is currently reviewing the amendments. Staff is hopeful the applications will be ready to be released in late August or early September.

### **D. Yelm Cemetery Historic Register Update**

The Commission decided to have the public hearing for the Yelm Cemetery's placement on the Historic Register at the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Cady updated the group that she had contacted the cemetery to inform them of the public hearing date and asked for some additional historical information on the cemetery.

### **E. Book Update**

Mr. Davis gave the good news that the legal review of the book contract has been completed. The contract end date was extended to December of 2022 due to the delays from Covid. Ms. Cady is working with Ms. Stevenson of OHS to schedule a zoom meeting to discuss the book roll out.

### **F. Subcommittee Updates**

The Commission discussed the following projects:

- Joint Meetings with Other Commissions – (Charlie, Sandy Rob, Grace) The subcommittee met earlier in the month, Grace created a survey and Sandy wrote an invitation. Rob confirmed that the speaker, Lauren Hoogkamer, is available in October excluding the 17<sup>th</sup>. Staff will send Ms. Hoogkamer a vendor list so she will be able to be reimbursed.
- Outreach Committee/Birthday Celebration County Fair (Ken, Grace, Paul) Rob requested the birthday celebration occur during the Joint Summit meeting.
- Historic Register Verification – (Beth) Apply for a grant to hire a consultant.
- Historic Signs - three historic ballrooms, joint marker with tribes – (Sandy, Ken, Paul, Elaine) Paul and Ken had discussions with a husband and wife associated with the Evergreen Ballroom property. There is a conflict of ownership and that is causing a

lot of the delay. Ken does not believe the sign project will be completed this year, but would like to allocate some of 2021's budget to this project.

- Stairwell signs- (Rob) Rob has tried to get in touch with his contact on the Tenino photo but has received no response. The fish trap photo is not from Thurston County so we can search for a new photo to use.

#### **G. Thurston County Code discussion**

Commissioner Kirkwood will begin to email a section of code to Ms. Cady prior to each meeting, this will be added to the agenda and the group will review the section together.

#### **H. Historic Barns**

Commissioner Kirkwood requested that staff contact Ms. Petersen, the former administrative assistant to the Historic Commission, about the historic barn project. There is a website for historic barns, but no images or information.

#### **I. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **J. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

*Prepared by Sonja Cady, Historic Commission staff.*