

SPRINGFIELD HISTORIC COMMISSION

Minutes: May 26, 2015

Present: Kerry Barbero
Bruce Berg
Kuri Gill
Dannie Helm
Tim Hilton
Vincent Martorello
Emily Scherrer
Staff Molly Markarian

Excused Absence: Councilwoman Sheri Moore

Where: Jesse Maine Room
Date/ Call to Order: 05/26/2015 at 5:30 pm

ITEM 1: Public Comment

There was no audience to comment.

ITEM 2: Minutes Approval

The minutes from the March 24, 2015 meeting was approved as corrected.

ITEM 3: Historic Moment

Commissioner Gill's historic moment involved an exercise on the qualities/characteristics of the Washburne Historic District. Each Commissioner was asked to 1) review a copy of the National Register nomination, 2) choose 3 things that they felt were most important, and 3) discuss and justify their choices. Setbacks and the overall landscape were common answers. If we are trying to get stronger regulations for the WHD then we need to think about code issues. Having the code to set parameters is a good way to go with a community like Springfield.

ITEM 4: Land Use Applications

There were no land use applications to discuss.

ITEM 5: Historic Commission Webpages

The City will soon be transitioning to Wordpress for its website. The City requested that Staff Markarian and the Commission review the current CLG webpages 1) to check that the content is current, 2) to see if there are content that should be added, 3) and to think about how the public is likely to access the information via urls, etc. The following points were brought up during the discussion:

- current CLG photo gallery takes too long to load
- current CLG webpages are not in responsive mode; they do not allow access via mobile devices; new website needs to include responsive mode
- historic context statement may be of interest to current or future homeowners, another city, student, or someone interested in history; the context could be found under research tool
- history of Springfield section should not be exclusive to CLG webpages

- some of the current text is condescending
- use of quick links is a good idea
- make links and forms available as .pdfs
- Deschutes County website is a good example

ITEM 6: Sub-Committee Reports

Pre1915 RLS (Springfield Selective RLS) Sub-Committee: Commissioner Hilton reported that the Sub-Committee is moving into the mapping phase of the project with assistance from City GIS Analyst Mike Engelmann.

Museum Display Sub-Committee: Commissioner Hilton announced that the Sub-Committee is reviewing various historic and current images for final selection and print on the display boards. Artifacts have also been identified to be used in display cases. To clarify, Staff Markarian stated that Ian Johnson at SHPO will need to review the proposed display board text prior to the final printing. He does not need to review the board layouts or the images, but he will want to review descriptions of the images that will be used.

Lumber Heritage Context Statement Sub-Committee: Staff Markarian reported that Liz Carter has determined that there are no extant above ground resources that date pre 1901. She will request a draft of the context statement from Carter for the July meeting.

ITEM 7: Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Gill had no updates at this time.

Commissioner Hilton worked on the previously discussed Pre-1915 RLS and Museum Display.

Commissioner Martorello reported that he is a liaison on the City's Downtown Citizen Advisory Committee, representing the Historic Commission.

Commissioner Scherrer announced that she attended the Washington Trust's Historic Preservation Conference held in Bellingham. It was a good conference. It focused more on economic development and downtown revitalization, less on history.

Commissioner Barbero worked on the local landmark designation application for the farmhouse at 6022 Thurston Road, drafted the May meeting Minutes, and worked on the previously discussed Pre-1915 RLS, and Museum Display.

Commissioner Berg assisted the Display Sub-Committee by locating historic photographs and by taking current photographs of resources.

Commissioner Helm attended the Heritage Conference hosted by SHPO. She will type up her notes and share them with the Commission. The highlight of the conference for her was learning how Cottage Grove, Albany, and Salem engaged their communities in preservation. The three cities used CLG funding to go through the strategic planning process with community partners. They are doing great work by following their plans. Helm recommends that our CLG do its own strategic planning during the next or upcoming grant cycle as way to help us make decisions as to our priorities and activities. Commissioner Gill commented that the City and Council in those communities are on board with preservation. Another way to engage the community is to get conversations going. Helm announced the following upcoming grant opportunities for

those interested: 1) NEH heritage grant, deadline June 25, for digitization projects; 2) NW History Network micro funding, deadline July 1.

ITEM 8: Staff Updates

Staff Markarian gave the following updates:

- There were 3 vacancies on the Commission and 3 applicants. Commissioner Scherrer moved away; Commissioners Berg and Hilton have reapplied for seats on the Commission.
- She will be out-of-town June 11-July 8.

Other Business

For the remainder of tonight's meeting, the Commission had a discussion regarding Hanalei Rozen's request at the March meeting. It was decided that the Commission will not take formal action on the letter request at this time. Further discussion on the subject is tabled, for a later meeting, until the Commission can make a comparison of similar homestead sites and review the Brattain-Hadley site in a broader context.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Minutes recorded by Kerry Barbero.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 28, 2015.