

City of Colville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

January 20, 2012

10:00 a.m. – City Hall

MINUTES

The Colville Historic Preservation Commission met for a regular meeting on Friday, January 20, 2012, at City Hall. Chairman Russ Larsen called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Larsen, Alan Bedford, Bruce Dietz, Avrum Baum and Tony Harmon. MEMBERS ABSENT: Two vacancies exist. STAFF PRESENT: Director of Building & Planning Jim Lapinski and Assistant Planner Melinda Lee. GUESTS PRESENT: Tracey Rice and Joe Barreca. RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan Davis.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of December 16, 2011 had been distributed to each member prior to the meeting. Alan Bedford moved and Bruce Dietz seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. Voice vote showed all in favor.

CROSSROADS ON THE COLUMBIA PRESERVE AMERICA PROJECT

Tracey Rice and Joe Barreca were introduced as representatives of the Crossroads on the Columbia Preserve America Project. Through a grant, they are involved with digitizing and archiving historical documents, photos, and other items of interest around Stevens County. The HPC is being requested to authorize access to its historic records for the project.

Tracey Rice stated that she and the project historian recently met with Melinda to review the HPC records on file. They are interested in digitizing and archiving historic information gathered on old buildings in Colville as well as a history on the Police Department and local law enforcement. If the HPC is in agreement, a Memorandum of Understanding would need to be signed by the Commission. Tracey stated the HPC would have control over what material is made available to the public.

Alan Bedford questioned how the information will be compiled and where it will be available. Tracey and Joe Barreca provided background information about the project. Through The Heritage Network they are working with museums and historical societies around the region. With the help of volunteers, materials are being scanned and put on the internet in a searchable manner. Two web sites have been set up to provide the information. Joe explained how the information is linked together and can be used to build tours and create publicity about local culture and history. A curator fee for the sale of information has been established that creates an income source for the museums. The Heritage Network is also working on an application for funds to create historic tours in the tri-county area that are available on smart phone. He felt the City of Colville has tremendous possibilities for historic tours and historic districts.

Alan suggested that an additional resource for historic information could be Rick Naff of the Knights of Pythias. Al provided Joe with contact information for Mr. Naff.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

January 20, 2012

Page 2

Bruce Dietz moved to allow access to the historical information on file with the HPC as requested. Alan Bedford seconded. Voice vote passed unanimously.

A Memorandum of Understanding circulated during the meeting for review was signed by Chairman Russ Larsen and Joe Barreca (copy on file).

OLD BUSINESS

A. Historic Markers.

Tony Harmon reported that his historic marker board is painted and ready for the gold lettering. He contacted artist Mike Somerlott to do the lettering. Mr. Somerlott will try to get the historic marker completed next month.

Tony also expressed a desire to see more murals on downtown buildings. He commented that he recently visited Sedro Woolley and took photos of some interesting features there, including murals that he hopes to share at a future HPC meeting. He suggested the idea of having a high school art class do a mural on a local building. In that regard, Tony advised that he contacted the high school principal who suggested it might be a potential senior project. Tony will be making contact again after the 1st of February. Avrum Baum urged the HPC to support the mural concept and felt the opportunity is there to present information and make visual improvements.

B. Rendezvous Booth Update.

Melinda presented an update on the Rendezvous Booth. She has been checking prices for materials and stated that it appears HPC may need to apply for a mini-grant from The Heritage Network. A canopy will be needed because HPC will not be using the shelter anymore. Price checks included a 10'x10' canopy @ \$97 or a 12'x12' @ \$129. Plastic folding chairs are \$11.88/each and metal folding chairs are \$9.48/each. Melinda suggested getting at least 4 folding chairs for the people staffing the booth. The HPC would need to decide whether to purchase more chairs for guests. Prices on brochures have increased substantially because the printers now use a different process. Current price quotes for 300 tour booklets from two local printers were \$799 and \$900 respectively. 500 booklets would cost \$1106 and \$1500 respectively. Alan suggested the booklet be made available for downloading from the website. Melinda was open to that suggestion but recommended that some copies be printed and made available. She felt a minimum of 300 copies a year would be adequate because the booklets are subject to change. Joe Barreca stated he has his own printer and he offered to provide a quote for printing the booklet noting that he can print from small to large batches. He requested a copy of the booklet on a flash drive to prepare a sample product to review. After getting quotes to reorder the tri-fold brochure, Melinda felt staff can re-print it in-house much cheaper and keep them up to date. Tony offered to help secure a canopy as he has access to materials sized from 20'x20' to 20'x30'. Melinda will present updated information at the next meeting.

Melinda reported that she and Laurie Engell are hoping to meet before the next Rendezvous Committee meeting to discuss how to share the space in the encampment area. Relative to the scheduling of events, Joe noted he has a slideshow on geologic and mining history for presentation. Melinda stated Geno Ludwig and Kitty Johnson have expressed a desire to return and there is a potential for the Friends of

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

January 20, 2012

Page 3

Spokane House to participate again as well. She stated she had talked to the Rendezvous Committee about doing downtown tours to encourage people to walk around, which could help promote the merchants. Melinda distributed a draft slideshow of the historic tour for review and comment and noted that she intends to add a voice over. The slideshow could be shown continuously on the laptop.

NEW BUSINESS

A. National Preservation Conference in Spokane.

Melinda advised that a National Preservation Conference will be held in October in Spokane. It was recognized that this could present a big opportunity to promote the area. A concern was expressed about the potential cost of participation. It was felt that more information about the conference is needed.

B. Recognition of artwork.

Alan Bedford pointed out that there is a goal in the Comprehensive Plan to recognize and preserve art work other than just historic things based on age. For example, he felt the mural on the wall of the Cupcakes & More building should be preserved. He suggested the HPC should be responsible for this goal and requested that it be discussed in the future.

C. HPC Newsletter.

Based on previous discussions, Jim suggested that possibly a quarterly newsletter would be appropriate to keep past members and the public informed about HPC activities and events. Brief discussion followed and it was suggested that maybe the Silverado Express newspaper could be contacted to do a news column.

REPORTS

Melinda reported that Avrum Baum's plaque for 320 N. Main Street will be presented today after the meeting. She invited the Commissioners to the presentation at the site. She advised that she received authorization from Sue Poe to order the plaque for her building at 126 S. Main Street.

It was noted that there are currently two vacancies on the Commission. Members were encouraged to talk to people and see if anyone is interested in serving. Potential candidates do not have to reside in the City but need to have an interest in historic preservation in Colville.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Alan Bedford moved and Bruce Dietz seconded the motion to adjourn. There were no objections and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:20 a.m.