

City of Colville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

August 19, 2011

10:00 a.m. – City Hall

MINUTES

The Colville Historic Preservation Commission met for a regular meeting on Friday, August 19, 2011, at City Hall. Chairman Russ Larsen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Larsen, Brenda Buckner, Janet Thomas, Bruce Dietz, and Tony Harmon (arrived after roll call). MEMBERS ABSENT: Alan Bedford and Avrum Baum. STAFF PRESENT: Director of Building & Planning Jim Lapinski and Assistant Planner Melinda Lee. RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan Davis.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of July 15, 2011 had been distributed to each member prior to the meeting. Janet Thomas requested that sentence 3 of paragraph 4 be changed to read “Janet suggested the designation of Crestview Drive as a historic district to make people aware...” There were no other corrections and the minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Rendezvous Booth.

Melinda Lee reviewed some of the comments that were received and observations made during Rendezvous Days. It was generally felt that the activities at the booth went well. Melinda reported that the Colville Tribe was unable to make it. Considerations for next year were discussed and are summarized as follows:

- Check Pavilion schedule and try to fill in gaps with booth presentations so there is no noise conflict (the music was very loud at times affecting HPC booth activities)
- Try to schedule Geno Ludwig for a longer period of time
- Schedule Guns & Roses Gun Club and Woodland Theatre group longer
- Use some signage to indicate what programs are being offered to attract people
- Suggest to the Rendezvous Committee that a beverage vendor be located closer to the entertainment – possibly at a concession booth at the Rotary Pavilion
- Create a history corner/circle of the HPC and Reenactment Group cooperating/coordinating together
- Preface Kitty Johnson’s presentation with an explanation about the friendship between Mary Walker and Jane McDonald in the 1800’s to try make it more attractive to the public
- Get the Heritage Network to participate again
- Possibly get a Gem & Mineral Club member to talk about the geologic history of the area
- Exploring possibility of featuring something about the mining history of the area
- Include the downtown on a historic tour
- Coordinate with downtown merchants - suggest that the merchants give out coupons or discounts

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- Have a scavenger hunt or contest that would encourage people to go to downtown historic buildings – such as Barman’s – and have them find out something historic about the building or get a stamp from each business that is visited and come back to the booth for a chance for a prize

### NEW BUSINESS

Janet Thomas asked about the status of discussion on next year’s goals. Melinda indicated that she had not had an opportunity to prepare anything for this meeting and requested direction.

In response to a question, Melinda Lee stated that a previous suggestion about having ghost tours has not been pursued to date. A comment was made about having a real “haunted” house during Halloween and the Keller House was suggested as a possible site.

Melinda advised that she had planned on updating the brochures this year. Due to limited time and resources, she requested assistance with research if more information about the buildings is desired. Some suggestions for soliciting research assistance included a volunteer sign-up sheet at the Library or articles in the Statesman Examiner, North Columbia Monthly, or Silverado Express.

Following discussion, Melinda suggested that a goal for next year could be to pursue the development of a fact sheet to promote historic plaques, which could help ease property owners’ concerns about the program. Janet felt that having the applicant do their own research in filling out the application might be a drawback. She suggested getting someone, such as a student, to help with the application. It was also suggested that some research be done on houses that were moved here from Marcus and Kettle Falls for future recognition. Brenda expressed a willingness to help Melinda with some of the research. Janet also offered some time as well with research on the Civic Center (Courthouse, Post Office, City Hall, and Library) for the application to be on the National Historic Register.

As discussed at the previous meeting, the idea for historic markers that would list past occupants of buildings was brought up. Tony Harmon felt that markers should be consistent and suggested using a 16” x 24” plywood back board, painted forest green, with gold lettering. He estimated the cost of each marker to be about \$3 each for the material. He proposed to make one for his own building, which would be hung outside below the historic plaque. Janet asked if it would be possible to use copper lettering on downtown historic markers to go with the copper historic plaques. There was some thought given to using a different design to mark other things like a relocated Marcus house, the old military road, or old lookout. Members expressed a desire to pursue historic markers recognizing that further discussion is needed relative to design(s) and promotion. It was requested that artist Mike Somerlott be contacted for design recommendation(s).

### REPORTS

Jim Lapinski reported that each City department has been asked to reduce its budget by 5% for 2012. In order to balance the Building & Planning budget across the board Jim suggested reducing the HPC supplies line item to \$625. He was advised by the City Clerk that a separate line item would have to be created for historic markers. Melinda pointed out HPC has already pre-paid for numerous blank plaques and future printing. In conclusion, staff suggested requesting \$100 for historic plaques, \$625 for supplies, and \$400 for historic markers for the 2012 budget. There were no objections to the 2012 budget request.

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Russ Larsen reported that the American Legion, Frank Starr Post will be hosting a candidate's night on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

Janet Thomas presented a report on The Heritage Network. The last meeting was held in Metaline Falls at the Cutter Theater and a tour of the building was provided. A local home designed by architect Kirtland Cutter could be seen from the street. Janet added that the Park Service is arranging for more interviews with people who are knowledgeable about and connected to Grand Coulee Dam.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.