

City of Colville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

December 20, 2013

10:00 a.m. – City Hall

MINUTES

The Colville Historic Preservation Commission met for a regular meeting on Friday, December 20, 2013, at City Hall. Chairman Russ Larsen called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Larsen, Avrum Baum, Alan Bedford and Terry Cripps. Tony Harmon arrived after roll call. MEMBERS ABSENT: Bruce Dietz. One vacancy exists. STAFF PRESENT: Director of Building & Planning Jim Lapinski. RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan Davis.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meetings of September 20, 2013 and October 18, 2013 had been distributed to each member prior to the meeting. Alan Bedford moved and Terry Cripps seconded to approve the September 20, 2013 minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously. Terry Cripps moved and the motion was seconded to approve the October 18, 2013 minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Larsen added discussion on The Heritage Network's historic (kiosk) display to Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Historic Display.

Russ Larsen inquired if any HPC members had contacted the Chamber of Commerce again regarding placement of The Heritage Network (THN) historic (kiosk) display in their office. It was noted that in past conversations Chamber representatives were not receptive because the display is too big. Tony Harmon expressed a willingness to attend the next Chamber meeting and again ask about placing it in their office on a trial basis. It was felt that some pictures and information regarding the dimensions of the display would be helpful for the presentation. Avrum Baum also suggested that other possible locations for the display be explored so that it isn't just sitting in storage at the fairgrounds.

Russ Larsen announced that the next meeting of The Heritage Network will be held in March 2014 at the museum if any HPC members are interested in attending.

B. 2013 Final Report.

The following items were discussed:

- Chainsaw carving contest - Director of Building & Planning Jim Lapinski brought up Tony Harmon's idea of a chainsaw carving contest and logging rodeo that was mentioned in past discussions. Tony stated

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that he had arranged for a man from Sedro Woolley to make a presentation to the Chamber, which included pictures of their event. Tony was not certain about the status of the idea as far as the Chamber is concerned. He offered to try to get some estimates for such an event including an idea of how many people would be associated with it and the duration of their stay for future presentation. Alan Bedford suggested that consideration be given to combining such an event with Rendezvous. Avrum Baum expressed the desire to keep the concept in mind recognizing it may not relate too much to historic preservation but could provide an economic opportunity for our town. Terry Cripps pointed out that logging is a big part of American history. It was also noted that logging has some historical significance to Colville and Main Street was built wide enough to turn teams of horses around.

- Downtown historic markers - Avrum questioned how HPC could encourage plaque recipients to put historic markers like Tony's on their buildings. For downtown buildings, Tony proposed requiring plaque applicants to pursue a historic marker as well through the application process. He suggested having the applicants research their commercial properties and find stories associated with the property/structure and provide the information on the plaque application. They would have to pay for the marker, which would cost approximately \$120, depending on the amount of printing required. Tony advised that the cost of his marker included approximately \$10 in materials and \$100 for artist Mike Somerlott to print all the historic information on it. Tony stated did all the research on the building using the library, tax records, and conversations with people as resources. He pointed out the book "Little Journeys Around the Town" was also very helpful. Alan noted that the museum will do research upon request at a cost of about \$15 and suggested the Genealogy Society as another possible resource. Jim felt that it would be helpful to put together a list of resources including a picture of Tony's marker as a guide to help people who might want to do the same thing. The HPC felt the markers would be a great attraction, noting that Tony has found that people are always stopping by his building to read the history.
- Tour booklets, brochures, and plaques – Jim reported that HPC has an adequate supply of tour booklets, brochures, and plaques going into 2014. He indicated the 2014 budget was reduced but there may be funds available for some of the other ideas that the HPC has mentioned.
- Bike racks - Jim reported that the Rotary Club is working on a project to provide bike racks around town. He stated Heritage Court has been suggested as a potential location for one of the bike racks.

Russ questioned the status of the proposed display board in Heritage Court. Jim advised that once a proposal is developed it would then go to the City Council because Heritage Court is in the public right-of-way.

- Downtown murals - Tony brought up the concept of downtown murals again. He reported that he had talked with a teacher at the high school who was receptive to the idea and felt it might be a great Senior Project. Following discussion, the HPC members expressed support for the idea but no decision was made at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Preliminary discussion of committee goals for 2014.

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Based on discussion, the following items were identified as potential 2014 goals:

1. Consider the concept of a logging rodeo with a chainsaw carving contest in downtown.
2. Maintain an adequate supply of tour booklets and brochures.
3. Assist The Heritage Network in finding a location to display the historic kiosk.
4. Draft language to include in the plaque application encouraging the installation of historic markers on downtown buildings from 3rd Avenue to Benny's Colville Inn. Prepare a list of resources, including a picture of a historic marker, to be used as a guide for applicants.

B. Recognition of Assistant Planner Melinda Lee.

Recognizing that the position of Assistant Planner was eliminated, Alan Bedford presented a request to recognize Melinda Lee's excellent work on behalf of the Historic Preservation Commission and the City of Colville. He asked that his request be recorded in the official minutes and a copy sent to Melinda. Everyone agreed that Melinda's contributions to the HPC and Planning Commission were very valuable and should be recognized. On a motion and a second it was a unanimous decision to award a certificate of appreciation to Melinda Lee. Jim Lapinski suggested it could be in a format similar to the art award. Alan indicated he planned to make the request to the Planning Commission as well.

REPORTS

Russ Larsen reported that at a recent Board meeting he and Melinda presented the Stevens County Historical Society with the art award for Leno Prestini's work. The award certificate will be displayed near one of Prestini's art pieces at the museum.

Tony Harmon apologized for his recent absences from HPC meetings and explained he had been working in Williston, North Dakota.

ADJOURNMENT

Alan Bedford moved and Terry Cripps seconded the motion to adjourn. There were no objections and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 17, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., at Colville City Hall