



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Heritage Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Heritage Commission
Contact: Marygrace Goddu
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Wednesday, June 23, 2021

6:00 PM

meeting via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Davies called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1.A ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Chair Holly Davies, Commissioner Kenneth House, Commissioner Andrea Pareigis, Commissioner Stephen Scott, Commissioner Gary Stedman, Commissioner Sheila Swalling and Commissioner Sharon Lumbantobing

Excused: 4 - Commissioner Jessica Bieber, Commissioner Audrey Henley, Commissioner Garner Miller and Commissioner Susan Rohrer

1.B OTHERS PRESENT

Olympia Historical Society / Bigelow House Museum Representative Greg Griffith

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.A [21-0628](#) Approval of May 20, 2021 Minutes of the Olympia Heritage Commission

Attachments: [OHC Minutes 05202021 Draft](#)

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Davies introduced new Commissioner, Sharon Lumbantobing.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

6.A [21-0632](#) Update on the Historic Tumwater Brewhouse

The update was postponed.

6.B [21-0629](#) Informational - Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum

Mr. Griffith shared the mission of the Olympia Historical Society (OHS) and the Bigelow House Museum (BHM). He discussed their mutual interests and overlapping work with the Heritage Commission. The Society is experiencing difficulty in sustaining the organization, they have no staff, rely on key volunteers and have one contracted employee who maintains their website. He noted that other cities provide direct funding for their history-keepers and have many museums that are well-funded and staffed, including the City of Lacey. A proposal is being developed to present to the City.

Ms. Goddu noted that the Society is a highly valuable partner for the City and perform a huge service to the community in maintaining a ready, accessible and very useful resource on local history through their website. The Heritage Commission has successfully partnered with OHS/BHM on projects and will continue this in the coming year.

Clarification was given that the Tribes are included in our understanding of “heritage” and are important partners. The Olympia Arts & Heritage Alliance is another local heritage organization who can be collaborated with in the future.

The LoveOly Festival series on Saturdays this summer represent one such opportunity. OHS/BHM is submitting a proposal for a history/heritage themed Saturday in the series. Ms. Goddu will share with the Commission when a date is set. Volunteers will be needed for activities and tabling.

The information was received.

6.C [21-0631](#) Briefing - 2017 Downtown Olympia Reconnaissance Survey

Attachments: [powerpoint slides](#)

Ms. Goddu shared a Powerpoint presentation on the purpose, goals and resulting recommendations of the 2017 Historic Downtown Reconnaissance Survey. The Survey and Designation Committee will be bringing forward strategies and proposals for acting on the results in future meetings.

It was suggested that the Heritage Commission send a letter to owners of buildings identified as eligible to share the benefits and encourage them to list. Commissioner Lumbantobing volunteered to work on a draft letter.

It was noted that many Downtown building owners do not live in Olympia.

The information was received.

6.D [21-0630](#) Annual Commission Retreat

A Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) theme will be the guide for the selection of training, possible speaker and goal setting. The Workplan review, Committee Structure/Membership Review and broad 2022 Workplan goals will be discussed.

Intangible cultural heritage and assets were suggested as a potential topic, it serves to capture and value aspects of culture beyond the build environment, which includes traditions and stories passed on verbally. This would allow the heritage of underrepresented groups to be equally valued.

The information was received.

7. REPORTS**7.A Marketing & Outreach Committee**

The committee is continuing to actively post on Social Media. Themes for July are needed and asked they be sent to Commissioner Henley or Commissioner Pareigis.

7.B Policy, Ordinance & Guidance Committee - None**7.C Survey & Designation Committee**

Information received in Business item 6.C.

7.D Heritage Review Committee

The recommendation for the individual listing on a home at, 208 18th Ave SW will be coming in August.

8. OTHER TOPICS

Ms. Goddu provided a staff report updating the Commission on the Armory Mitigation Storytelling project. Commissioner Stedman will be representing the Heritage Commission on the Committee. Marketing and Outreach will be needed to get the word out to the community to ask them to share their stories. The Olympia Historical Society will host the website.

Capitol Campus Legislative Campus Modernization project- A design firm has been selected for the new Senate office building. A peer review team has been assembled to review scope, mid-point progress and final recommendations of the Pritchard Rehabilitation Feasibility study. The South Capitol Neighborhood Association has drafted a White Paper to send to the State Capitol Committee and to the Department of Enterprise Services documenting their concerns.

Volunteers are needed to join a committee with Arts Commissioners to work on Speaker Services, "ARCH and Equity" which is a common Workplan item on both Commissions. Commissioner Henley indicated that the Marketing & Outreach Committee are likely candidates but she will need to check with Commissioner Pareigis and Commissioner Rohrer.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.