



CITY OF REDMOND
Community Development Department

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REDMOND HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION **Minutes**

Thursday, August 8, 2013

City Hall Conference Room A, 716 SW Evergreen Avenue, Redmond, Oregon

Commissioners Present: Chair Jack Nelson, Vice-Chair Phyllis Sturza, Trish Pinkerton, Jane Schroeder, Jo Anne Sutherland

City Staff: Heather Richards, *Community Development Director*; Kim Dickie, *Airport Director*; Eric Fancett, *Deputy Director-Business Operations*; Cameron Prow, *TYPE-Write II*

Visitors: Ginny McPherson, *Council Liaison*

(scribe CP's note: The minutes were created from an audio record and notes taken at the meeting. The three digits after the motion title show the number of Commissioners voting in favor/against/abstaining.)

CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Nelson opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. with a quorum present.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. World War II Hangar at Roberts Field

Ms. Richards outlined the hangar's history. This hangar is a prototype of a standard hangar built in the 1940s for Air Force bases. The City owns the hangar which is currently leased to Butler Aircraft. This is the only remaining artifact from WW II days at the airport that is designated as a local historic landmark. This building is also listed on the State historic database. The exterior integrity of the building has never been altered. The City needs to have a dialogue about the value in retaining a building that is representative of the history of the airport during WW II. Other issues for discussion could include leveraging the historic value of the hangar into a business value, and historic restoration/preservation funding sources (FAA, Department of Defense, GA community, WW II veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, historical society, Cal Butler family).

Ms. Dickie pointed out the hangar's location on a map in relation to other airport facilities. Butler has been utilizing the north end of the airfield as a fixed-base operator, providing general aviation (GA) services. The hangar is used for aircraft maintenance and storage; the current lease will expire in July 2014. GA is only 5% of the airport's revenue, so the airport relies on the tenant for upkeep. The Airport Commission will discuss the future of general aviation at its August 8 meeting, and is concerned about the best future use of this hangar, maintenance needed, lack of funding for future rehabilitation, competition for Butler's business from other Central Oregon airports, and whether to extend the current lease or consider redevelopment of this property.

Commissioners discussed *historical significance to the community, building size, Butler's intent on lease renewal, percentage of airport used by GA, impact of WW II use of the airport on the Cline Falls airstrip, why the hangar was painted pink, encouraging the Airport Commission to continue the historic designation, and being kept apprised of progress on this project.*

B. Historic Landmark Designation

Old Redmond Schoolhouse: Ms. Richards reported that Roger Lee has found a lot and is working on the due-diligence part prior to making a formal proposal to Commissioners and City Council. The sign installed this summer has generated interest from *Redmond Executive Association* (café/market and public educational forum), *Redmond Geological Interpretive Center* (Richard Lance), *YouthBuild* (student historic restoration project), *Heart of Oregon*, and *Brown School*. Materials would have to be donated as there are no City funds for restoration. She noted that Council has not yet discussed the value of using public funds to support preservation of historic structures. She agreed to contact the City of Ashland regarding its role in preserving publicly owned historic structures.

Commissioner discussion covered *opportunities for community education, updating Mr. Lee about interest from community groups, retaining public ownership in the current Dry Canyon location, community fund-raising, material costs, timeline of groups indicating interest now, and impact of commercial use on the Dry Canyon master-planning process.*

Chair Nelson reported meeting with a YouthBuild member this morning at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse in the Dry Canyon. The next step will be for the City and YouthBuild to put together a program. He recommended installing another sign at the soccer field.

Councilor McPherson said individual councilors are interested in historic designation but discussion is taking place only at the commission level.

Jessie Hill School Bell: Chair Nelson said People in the community have been taking pictures of the bell in its tower at the school. Commissioner Pinkerton has been putting together a format for a framed information sheet for Redmond Public Library and Vern Patrick School.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilor McPherson said discussions about what to do with the Old Redmond Schoolhouse prompted Ms. Dickie's interest in the historical status of Redmond Airport's World War II hangar.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (None)

STAFF COMMENTS (None)

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (None)

ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2013.

With no further business, Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

APPROVED by the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission and SIGNED by me this 19th day of September, 2013.

ATTEST:

/s/ Jack Nelson
Jack Nelson
Chair

/s/ Heather Richards
Heather Richards
Community Development Director