



CITY OF REDMOND
Community Development Department

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REDMOND HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
Minutes

Thursday, December 12, 2013

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

Commissioners Present: Temporary Chair Jo Anne Sutherland, Trish Pinkerton, Jane Schroeder
(absent: *Phyllis Sturza*; 1 vacancy)

City Staff: Heather Richards, *Community Development Director*

Visitors: Ginny McPherson, *Council Liaison*; Peter Gutowsky and Matt Martin, *Deschutes County Long-Range Planning*

(scribe CP's note: The minutes were created from an audio record.

The three digits after the motion title show the number of Commissioners voting in favor/against/abstaining.)

CALL TO ORDER

Temporary Chair Sutherland opened the meeting at approximately 9 a.m. with a quorum present.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Deschutes County Community Development Department: Discussion of Draft Historic Preservation Strategic Plan Scope of Work

Mr. Gutowsky handed out copies of the draft strategic plan. Certified Local Government grant funding for historic preservation projects is limited. To prepare for the next CLG application cycle starting February 2015, Deschutes County's long-range planning department is seeking assistance from its strategic partners to identify regional assets and prioritize preservation efforts. He summarized activities that he and Mr. Martin will be conducting to engage with historic landmark commissions, state historical societies, rural property owners, the historic preservation community, and chambers of commerce. His outreach efforts will include a mailer, press releases, interviews with retired historic preservation planners, and speaking with anyone who has an opinion on this issue. He'll seek support from the Board of County Commissioners in fall 2014. The County has hired a consultant to do a reconnaissance-level survey to identify landmark structures and sites that have a tourism theme that can help draw people to Central Oregon. SHPO has been very supportive about paving the way to a multiple listing on the National Register. Sharing information and collaborating where possible will maximize the resources available and help manage expectations. Broad consensus on regional resources can help inform individual CLG applications. He asked Commissioners to share their questions and concerns with him or Mr. Martin by phone or e-mail.

Ms. Richards said Redmond needs to start working on its own historic preservation strategic plan and could perhaps dovetail its efforts with the County's strategic plan for historic resources.

Commissioner comments covered the benefits of partnering and the County's willingness to work with Redmond to facilitate historic preservation efforts.

B. Old Redmond Schoolhouse Update

Temporary Chair Sutherland expressed disappointment at the low citizen turnout at the December 11, 2013, open house. Those who attended were familiar with Roger Lee and were happy with what the Redmond Landmarks Commission originally decided.

Ms. Richards commented that KTVZ did a really good job of reporting on the event. In spite of her efforts to publicize the hearing, the only people present were those invited. The open house did not generate any additional interest. She expressed concern about new vandalism, public safety, and fire danger. The recent notoriety is increasing the building's vulnerability. She will talk with the Parks Department about better security, especially around the crawl space, which is frequently being used as shelter from the colder weather.

Ms. Richards noted that Wendie Every's prior interest in this building was motivated by her relationship with the Egleston family.

E. Approval of Minutes

Motion 1 (3/0/0): Commissioner Pinkerton moved to approve the September 19 and October 10, 2013, minutes as presented. Commissioner Schroeder seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilor McPherson said one Councilor reportedly received a call from a citizen who stated the Old Redmond Schoolhouse should be preserved. The Egleston family, who owns the building, approached her and indicated they wanted Mr. Lee to get it because they knew he'd preserve it. The committee supporting preservation of this building has until the Council meeting on January 28, 2014, to gather support, at which time Council will make a decision. She informed Commissioners that their opinions and suggestions are of value to City Council. Council held the open house to make sure there was as much public input as possible before a decision is made.

Temporary Chair Sutherland thanked Councilor McPherson for her interest in and efforts to keep open communications moving back and forth between Council and this committee. She also thanked Ms. Richards for staff support provided to the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission in 2013.

CITIZEN COMMENTS (None)

STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. Richards reported that Commissioner Jack Nelson has resigned effective immediately. Commissioners Sturza and Sutherland are retiring. Commissioners Pinkerton and Schroeder are returning. One new Commissioner (Al Jamison) was appointed on December 10, 2013. She requested Commissioners' assistance in recruiting new members for the two vacant positions. It's possible the high profile of discussion around the Old Redmond Schoolhouse might generate interest. She informed Commissioners that she will be working to establish permanent staff support for the Landmarks Commission in the next fiscal year's work plan. She thanked Commissioners for their willingness to attend extra meetings over the last month.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (None)

ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2014.

With no further business, Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:36 a.m.

APPROVED by the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission and SIGNED by me this 24th day of February, 2014.

ATTEST:

/s/ Trish Pinkerton, Chair
Phyllis Sturza
Vice-Chair

/s/ Heather Richards
Heather Richards
Community Development Director