



CITY OF REDMOND
Community Development Department

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REDMOND HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
Minutes

Tuesday, August 30, 2011

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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jack Nelson, Jane Schroeder, Phyllis Sturza, Jo Anne Sutherland
(*absent:* Mike Thompson)

CITY STAFF: Heather Richards, *Community Development Director*

VISITORS: George Endicott, *Mayor*; Trish Pinkerton, *Redmond Spokesman*

(*scribe CP's note: The minutes were created from an audio record. The three digits after the motion title shows the number of members voting in favor/against/abstaining.*)

CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Richards opened the meeting at approximately 4 p.m. Commissioners introduced themselves, summarizing their backgrounds and interests in protecting Redmond's historic resources:

- * **Mr. Nelson** said that Redmond needs to designate more properties and update its inventory. Tours of existing facilities are a good way to get residents involved.
- * Mr. Nelson reported that **Mike Thompson** (not present due to family issues) is a Redmond contractor and has also been a Deschutes County building inspector. He previously served as a planning commissioner and historic commissioner in Newberg, Oregon.
- * **Ms. Sturza** said she has lived in Redmond all her life. She served on both Redmond Planning Commission and the Historical Commission. The City needs its own landmarks commission.
- * **Ms. Schroeder** said she served on both City Council and the Historical Commission. Redmond citizens know more about their own community than anyone else.
- * **Ms. Sutherland** said she is a native Oregonian who has lived in Central Oregon since 1970. A retired city manager, she has worked with almost every city in the tri-county area from Warm Springs to La Pine. Bend issues dominated the Deschutes County Historical Landmarks Commission. Local protection of Redmond's historic resources as the city grows will be beneficial for its future.

Mayor Endicott said it was important to get long-time residents involved while they're still around and to protect resources before they are lost.

Ms. Richards said that she has a Masters in Historic Preservation Planning and 30 years of experience in this field; she will be the primary staff person. City staff are reaching out to Redmond's youth to gain their input and encourage their active participation in community life.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Swearing In of Commissioners

Mayor Endicott administered the oath of office to Mr. Nelson, Ms. Schroeder, Ms. Sturza, and Ms. Sutherland and thanked them for agreeing to serve. He delegated the swearing in of Mr. Thompson to the Commission. Each Commissioner signed the oath of office. Ms. Richards said she would bring copies of the signed oath of office to the next meeting.

B. Review of Commission Enabling Code

Ms. Richards presented a reference notebook to each Commissioner and explained the link between historic preservation and economic vitality. The Commission's purpose is to protect and enhance the City's attraction to residents and visitors and to serve as support and stimulus to business and industry. Per an intergovernmental agreement with Deschutes County, the City of Redmond will administer historic resources out to the urban growth boundary. She discussed key elements of the enabling code, Redmond's historic preservation efforts to date, historic review process, connection with other land use planning documents, and additional resources (training, community experts, databases, maps). Structures are easier to protect if included in the Redmond Historical Landmarks Inventory. Historic attributes of listed properties are protected through the inventory's inclusion in the Redmond Development Code.

The local inventory lists 18 historic sites. In 1997, Michael Hauser surveyed 466 Redmond sites for inclusion in the statewide database. The State Historic Preservation Office currently lists 497 sites for Redmond; staff is downloading the original survey forms for those sites. Only 3 of the 32 sites deemed eligible – a church, the New Redmond Hotel, and Michael Hauser's house – have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Dry Canyon and the Redmond caves are listed on the national register as archaeological sites. Michael Hall did an intensive-level survey in 2009, recommending 12 sites for local designation and 1 site for listing on the national register. Meeting packet notices will be sent via e-mail and hard mail. Staff will print additional resources upon request.

Commissioner concerns included *potential sites for the local inventory, correcting addresses for historic structures that have been moved, educating citizens about the value of historic resources, and unlisted historic resources that may be lost to current and future development.*

C. Current Redmond Historic Preservation Program

Ms. Richards summarized preservation achievements to date, what still needs to be done, and how community attitudes can advance or retard progress. The City has an ongoing record of façade rehabilitation projects done through the Redmond Urban Renewal Agency. Historic preservation is a vital economic development tool in neighborhood revitalization. Surveys indicate that listing a property on the national register immediately increases its property value by 10%. Next steps include reviewing Michael Hall's work to see if any of the sites he surveyed should be designated. Educating people on Redmond's current historic resources can be done through tours and celebrations. She will be conducting an architectural tour of Redmond in early October 2011. Opportunities exist to establish historic districts downtown and in residential neighborhoods. Becoming a Certified Local Government would offer access to grant funds.

Commissioner concerns covered *endangered sites/structures, funding commercial amenities (ADA compatibility), and the difference between historic "places" and "historic sites."*

E. Vote on Chair and Vice Chair Positions; Set Meeting Dates

Motion 1 (4/0/0): Ms. Sutherland moved to nominate Mr. Nelson to serve as **Chair** through the end of 2012. Ms. Schroeder seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Richards passed control of the meeting to Chair Nelson.

Motion 2 (4/0/0): Ms. Schroeder moved to nominate Ms. Sutherland to serve as **Vice Chair** through the end of 2012. Ms. Sturza seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

D. Discussion of Goals and Work Program

Following discussion, Commissioners requested that staff provide (1) a current activity survey of sites on the Redmond Historical Landmarks Inventory and (2) a list of historic properties on the walking tour list that aren't currently on the local landmarks inventory. Ms. Richards said she would include the date that each property was added to the list on which it appears.

Motion 3 (4/0/0): Vice Chair Sutherland moved that the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission request an extension of time to evaluate the recommendation to demolish the Redmond Schoolhouse structure and make a recommendation to City Council by September 27, 2011, on the basis that the site is of historical interest in the comprehensive plan. Commissioner Schroeder seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Richards said she would e-mail Commissioners' request to City Council and Public Works Director Chris Doty, research City records, and invite Bob Riggs to attend the September 2011 meeting to share his knowledge of the Redmond Schoolhouse.

Following discussion, Commissioners agreed **by consensus** to (1) tour the Redmond Schoolhouse site on September 8 (9:15 a.m.) for the purpose of determining future plans for the building and (2) meet on October 13, November 10, and December 8, 2011 (9:30-11:30 a.m.).

LIAISON COMMENTS (None)

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Pinkerton said that she would research back issues of the *Redmond Spokesman* about when the Redmond Schoolhouse was moved to the Dry Canyon area.

STAFF COMMENTS (None)

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (None)

ADJOURN

With no further business, Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at approximately 6 p.m.

APPROVED by the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission and SIGNED by me this 13TH day of October, 2011.

ATTEST:

/s/ Jack Nelson
Jack Nelson
Chair

/s/ Heather Richards
Heather Richards
Community Development Director