



CITY OF REDMOND
Community Development Department

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REDMOND HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION **Minutes**

Thursday, October 13, 2011

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

Commissioners Present: Chair Jack Nelson, Vice Chair Jo Anne Sutherland, Jane Schroeder, Phyllis Sturza, Mike Thompson

City Staff: Heather Richards, *Community Development Director*

Visitors: Shirlee Evans, *City Councilor*; Trish Pinkerton, *Redmond Spokesman*, Tamara McGarry

(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 shows the number of members voting in favor/against/abstaining.)

CALL TO ORDER – INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Nelson opened the meeting at approximately 9:30 a.m. with a quorum present.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Redmond Schoolhouse Recommendation

Ms. Richards said that this property is listed on the state inventory as being of historical interest but is not designated as a landmark. Criteria for designation will include historical integrity, age, and contribution to local history. Based on his assessment, Architect Don Stevens believes that this structure, including additions, has a lot of historical integrity.

Councilor Evans shared her thoughts on the historic status of this structure including its original use, age, and current condition. Impediments to preservation include the cost of repair and maintenance.

Commissioner concerns included *structural viability, historic integrity, historic landmark criteria, potential uses, repair and maintenance costs, access and parking, Deschutes County Historical Society interest in reinforcing the origins and character* (chalkboards, bookcases, display cases), *confirming length of school use, architectural value, physical improvements* (screening, landscaping), *preventing further deterioration, reducing fire hazard* (removing weeds), *Parks Commission's plan for the dry canyon, and value of preserving the site vs. the structure.*

Motion 1 (4/0/0): Chair Nelson moved that Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission direct the City Planning Department to begin the land use process to designate the Redmond Schoolhouse as a historic landmark. Commissioner Sturza seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Motion 2 (4/0/0): Chair Nelson moved that Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission pursue the process by which resources will be dedicated to (1) preserving the short-term structural viability of the Redmond Schoolhouse and (2) estimating the cost for long-term adaptive reuse of this structure. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioners agreed **by consensus** to recommend potential uses for this building in its current location that will be complimentary to the Parks Commission's plan for the dry canyon area.

Ms. Richards said she would consult with Public Works Director Chris Doty and other staff about how to structure the RHLC recommendation to the Parks Commission. Staff reports will be presented at the November 2012 meeting on the (1) application for historic resource land use designation, (2) construction cost estimates for site security and potential adaptive reuse, and (3) Parks Commission plans for the dry canyon.

B. Review of Redmond Historic Landmarks Inventory

Ms. Richards presented a list of properties to consider for local landmark designation (last updated in 1998) plus photographs and historical background for each property listed. She discussed decision-making processes, RHLC role, and potential funding sources. The state inventory lists 600 sites for Redmond. Staff are setting up a database and have requested assistance from the Deschutes County Historical Society. The Historic Preservation League of Oregon will be making a formal request for the RHLC to consider designating a property on Helmholtz that it considers one of the ten most endangered sites in the state.

Commissioners reviewed potential landmarks on a property-by-property basis to assist in determining which properties should remain on the list and which were missing. Discussion points included *resources for background information on individual properties*, *process for removing properties from the inventory*, and *properties worthy of listing on the National Register of Historic Places*. Properties reviewed: Fred Atkinson Building, Jessie Davenport-Butler Building, Burdick Building, Theron Boger Cottage, Presbyterian Community Church, Erick Brothers Store, McMickle House, Milton Odem House, Redmond Union High School (Evergreen Elementary School), Lou Smith House, New Redmond Hotel, Josephine Wilcox House, and World War II Airport Hangar. Other properties of historical interest, but not currently designated, included Allen House, J. F. Hosch House, Fritz Landacre Building, Alfred Munse House, and Old Redmond Schoolhouse.

Motion 3 (4/0/0): Commissioner Sturza moved that the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission recommend that City Council remove the Burdick Building from the 1998 Redmond Landmark Inventory through a public hearing process. Commissioner Schroeder seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioners, **by consensus**, asked Ms. Richards to do further research on Redmond Union High School and the World War II Airport Hanger for discussion at the next meeting.

C. Approval of Minutes

Motion 4 (4/0/1): Commissioner Schroeder moved that the Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission approve the minutes from August 30 and September 14, 2011, as presented. Commissioner Sturza seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilor Evans said that she was looking forward to attending more RHLC meetings as she has a lot to learn. This is a really important thing for the community.

In response to Council Evans' question, Ms. Richards explained the difference between the National Register of Historic Places and the local landmarks inventory. A May 2011 amendment to the Redmond Development Code requires that landowners agree to having their properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places and/or the local landmarks inventory.

