

LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2012 6:00pm
Lacey City Hall- Council Chambers

PRESENT

Commission: Loren Baker, Shirley Binkley, Roger Easton, Ken Dean, Matthew Connor, Rosalie Melnick, and Erik Solveson

Excused: Kimberley Bauman

Staff: Lori Flemm, Amber Raney

Public: Diane Dean

Historical Society:

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m., by Chairman Loren Baker.

AGENDA

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

MINUTES

The December 5, 2011 minutes were approved and placed on record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a) Lacey Historical Society: No report. Amy Turner came for the Thurston County Through the Decades meeting and left before the LHC meeting.
- b) Others: None

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, February 2, 7:00 p.m.: Work Session with City Council to present 2011 Achievements and 2012 Work Plan, Council Chambers. Commissioners are encouraged to attend as this is their opportunity to meet with the council. Loren will present the information to the council members.

OLD BUSINESS

Revised site plan for Jacob Smith House Grounds: Lori reported that \$300,000 was committed by the City Council for this project, \$30,000 of which is designated for architect and engineering services. Lori presented the design decisions for the commissioners and discussion followed on the various aspects of what the students at Saint Martin's have prepared to date. The addition of the paved parking lot is the primary purpose of the dedicated funds, but the commission also weighed in on the proposed storage building, a structure to serve for furniture and equipment for outdoor functions, a wedding trellis, a gazebo for Tract B, and whether the landscape character should be historic or functional and aesthetic. The general consensus was that if some historical/heritage plants could be incorporated into the functional setting, the functional character would be sufficient. Roger mentioned that, in keeping with the standards of the DAHP, any new building to the grounds should be distinctly different from the original structure.

NEW BUSINESS

Report on Himes Diary Transcriptions: Amber reported that she submitted the final report for the Thurston County Heritage Grant. She submitted copies of the report for the commissioners and thanked Roger again for all of his hard work and dedication to the project. His tireless effort made the project an overwhelming success. Amber also reported that she should be hearing on the award of the second phase grant soon. Roger suggested that the decisions would most likely be made public at the next meeting which is scheduled for Thursday, January 12.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Depot: No report
- b) Depot Art: No report
- c) 2012 Depot Fundraiser Performance: Loren suggested that the commissioners begin thinking of a new direction to take in terms of the program since no performer has been scheduled. He suggested we consider someone to speak on a historical topic. Discussion followed.
- d) Thurston County Through the Decades: Diane reported that this committee met at 5:00 p.m., just prior to the LHC meeting. She submitted her proposal for the types of facilities that could be represented in the 1920s town, and all agreed that her choices were excellent. Diane is taking on the responsibility of acting as the coordinator for all aspects of the event in order to prevent confusion and redundancy. The next meeting date was not set at this time, but will likely be longer than previous meetings. The hope is that by the next meeting, most, if not all of the tents will have sponsors. Diane will keep everyone in the loop through emails and phone calls.

STAFF / MUSEUM REPORT

Curator's Report:

1. Amber reported that she worked with Ryan Cox of Lacey Fire District 3 to scan in over 300 historical fire department photographs for our museum collection and for their use in a presentation for the end of the year and welcoming ceremony for their new chief. She will continue to scan and catalogue photographs and items, time permitting.
2. The final report for the Thurston County Heritage Grant program was submitted on time. Amber reported that she expects to hear about the award of the second phase grant this week.
3. Amber also reported that she finished the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to begin work on the schematic design and cost estimate for the Lacey Museum at the Depot project. The first ad ran on Sunday, January 8, and it will run again on Wednesday, January 18. Submittals are due Friday, February 3. The evaluation panel consists of: Amber Raney, Steve Kirkman (Public Affairs), Wade Duffy (Building Official, CD), Samra Seymour (CD), Tom Stiles (PW), Benjamin Helle (WA St. Archives), Lanny Weaver (LHS co-President), Diane Dean (Chair, Depot Committee), and Victoria Blackwell (Curator of Exhibits and Collections, Harbor History Museum).
4. Amber presented the commission with photographs and a report on her recent visit to the Harbor History Museum in Gig Harbor.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Matthew reported that he uploaded his updated version of the Historical Register Brochure to the city's website. He also reported that he is working on the educational outreach program.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a.) Depot sign installed: Lori reported that as of this meeting the new museum sign had not been installed, but that she would email everyone when it was in place.
- b.) Lori also reported that the Planning Commission and Community Development will work on a neighborhood/district plan for the depot district. They will be proceeding with an RFQ process. There is currently a Neighborhood Plan for the Woodland District, and this "Depot District" will help determine what else would enhance the area in terms of walking/shopping/parking/commercial/housing, etc. This will bring a lot of attention to the museum project.
- c.) Jennifer Kenny, Associate Planner with City of Olympia Community Planning and Development, would like to organize a CAMP for local heritage commissioners. This program would consist of short courses on historic preservation. Kenny estimates that the entire program would cost between \$3,000-5,000. Lori reported that while the City of Lacey does not have sufficient funds in our 2012 budget and could not share the costs to put on this program, we may have sufficient funds in our budget to send 1 – 2 Commissioners.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, February 6, 2012, 6 p.m. at Lacey City Hall