

## LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 6, 2012 6:00 p.m.  
Lacey Museum, 829 Lacey St.

### PRESENT

Commission: Matthew Connor, Shirley Binkley, Rosalie Raps Melnick, Kristina Trebil, and Ariana Rivera. Ariana was introduced as our Youth Commissioner, replacing Erik Solveson.

Staff: Lori Flemm, Amber Raney

Public: None

Historical Society: Dick Yates

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Matthew Connor, Interim Chair. Initially there was not a quorum, as Shirley Binkley didn't arrive until later. Rosalie moved that:

**Motion: Appoint Ariana Rivera Lacey Historical Commission Youth Representative in August rather than September to replace Erik Solveson.**

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

### AGENDA

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

### MINUTES

Kristina noted two errors in the July 2, 2012 minutes:

1. She only served one year on the Mason County Historical Committee.
2. Under Old Business, Kristina volunteered to serve on the evaluation panel for the Jacob Smith House Plan.

The July 2, 2012 minutes were approved as corrected and placed on record.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

- a) Lacey Historical Society: Dick stated that he had no report other than planning is under way for the Lacey Historical Society's Annual Meeting on September 25.
- b) Others: None.

### CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The September Lacey Historical Commission meeting will be held on the second Monday in September, **September 10, 2012 at Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers.**

### OLD BUSINESS

- a) \$5,000 grant awarded for Himes Diary Digitization and Transcription Phase 2 (Progress Update): With Roger's passing, the project is incomplete. He had completed transcription through the year 1868. There are still several years

remaining. Amber asked the commissioners if anyone was interested in carrying on the work that Roger had devoted himself to. Kristina and Ariana both expressed an interest in helping finish the project. Amber expressed her deep gratitude for their assistance, and stated that she, too, would be working to get it all finished by the end of December.

- b) General and Youth Commissioner Recruitment: Lori reported that the process has not begun yet, but that the commission desperately needs professionals to fill the vacancies and retain its CLG status. Ariana suggested contacting college professors. Lori thanked her for her input and agreed that it was an excellent idea.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Draft Museum Master Plan Outline: Matthew reported that he is working on the previous edits from sections 1-3. Lori distributed sections 6 and 8 and discussion followed.
- b) Exhibit Planning: Lori proposed that the commissioners begin thinking about what they'd like to see in the exhibits. Amber reported that, with the recent renovations at the current museum coupled with her conversations with the exhibit designers on the team, she has begun thinking at length about the exhibits. She offered her suggestions on what the new facility should display and asked the commissioners to weigh in. Her thought is that the City of Lacey is frequently mistaken as a young city with no meaningful history. The more recent stories are the ones that people know and utilize to formulate opinions of the community. Therefore, she would like to see the new museum tell the earliest stories of the Lacey area. Beginning with the native tribes (who will be invited to tell their own story within the new facility), progressing through the Hudson's Bay Company's involvement, European settlers, the harrowing tale of those who crossed the Naches Pass in 1853, the earliest days of Lacey—schools, racetrack, hotel, depot, resorts, and culminating with the end of WWII. Not only is this a natural stopping point in the transformation of the community, but it will give future generations a chance to tell the more recent stories and allow for the potential of rotating exhibits on the more contemporary stories in Lacey. The commissioners were fully supportive of this idea. Ariana stated that it is the older stories that really surprise and delight the younger visitors. And everyone was in agreement that these are the stories that no one really knows.

## **AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Depot: No report.
- b) Depot Art: Shirley suggested that the Depot Art Committee be tabled until necessary. Rosalie moved that:

**Motion: Table the Depot Art Committee and reestablish it when it is appropriate and necessary.**

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

- c) 2012 Depot Fundraiser Performance: Lacey Councilmember, Andy Ryder, attended the Museum Open House and reported that he was continuing to

pursue entertainers for a fundraiser performance. In the meantime, the commissioners decided to table this committee, too. Rosalie moved that:

**Motion: Table the Depot Fundraiser Performance Committee and reestablish it when it is appropriate and necessary.**

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

## **STAFF / MUSEUM REPORT**

### **Curator's Report:**

Amber did not provide a written report. She reported that in addition to helping coordinate and facilitate Roger's memorial gathering on July 18, her month was devoted to the reorganization of the Lacey Museum. Painting was finally completed, and she installed the new exhibit in the main gallery, which tells the story of Movement Through the Lacey Community. The five cases in the room help to describe various forms of movement, from travel by ox cart, horse and buggy, to railroads and everything in between. In addition, the story included movement of people across property with the story of the Himes Donation Land Claim.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

No report.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Matthew gave a brief report on what he worked on while an intern with the City of Lacey. He wrote the memorial tribute to Roger, updated and edited the Museum Master Plan, updated the Educational Outreach program and translated it into Spanish for ESL students, and he worked with Ariana to help her prepare for her year as a Youth Representative for the Lacey Historical Commission.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Lori reported that the budget she is submitting for the museum has no cuts, but also no requests to the annual \$60,500.

## **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Monday, September 10, 2012, 6 p.m. at Lacey City Hall