

LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 5, 2013 6:00 p.m.

Lacey Museum

Note: These minutes have been approved and placed on record as corrected at the September 18, 2013 meeting.

PRESENT

Commission: Rosalie Raps Melnick, Ken Dean, Kimberley Bauman, Shirley Binkley, Kristina Trebil, Amber Raney, and Ariana Rivera.

Excused: Stefanie Deyette

Staff: Lori Flemm

Public: Diane Dean, Mari Fleetwood, Yasemin and Bahar Alptenik

Historical Society: Shirley Dziedzic, Ken Marmion, Bob Krier, Lisa Wooden

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m. by Rosalie Raps Melnick.

AGENDA

Added: 9e) Thurston County Heritage Grant

MINUTES

The July 1, 2013 minutes were approved and placed on record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) New Museum Curator

Lori announced that Erin Quinn Valcho has been selected as the new Lacey Museum Curator. Erin is a Washington native, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology and French from Pacific Lutheran University in 1993. Erin received a Master's Degree in Museum Studies from the University of Denver in 1997. She most recently held the position of Museum Manager for four years in the City of Greeley Colorado, managing a budget of up to \$1million, 11 permanent and 15 part-time staff for a four-site museum system. Erin comes to us with a wealth of experience directly applicable to our Depot project: She has written and managed grants, started a funding team, and coordinated many special events. She served as Curator of Collections in Greeley for ten years, creating a new museum and orchestrating a move of the collections into the new museum. Erin's first day of work is Thursday, September 12. She will have an office in city hall, and will be at the museum on Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. There will be a Welcome Reception at Lacey City Hall from 4:30-6:00 pm on Wednesday, September 18.

b) Amber Raney announced she will not seek reappointment when her unexpired term ends in September. She will remain the Fleetwood/Long's Pond Committee Chair and a member of the Lacey Historical Society. Everyone present expressed their thanks to Amber, for her years of service to the City, saying her 8 years as Curator were "masterful", "brought the Lacey Museum to such a high level" and "brought Lacey to the attention of Washington State History".

c) Yasemin Alptekin was introduced as our new Historical Commissioner who will be recommended for appointment by the Mayor at the City Council meeting on August 8.

- d) Lori announced that the City had received two applications for the position that Yasemin will be recommended for. With Amber not seeking re-appointment, Lori will contact Mayor Clarkson tomorrow concerning the second qualified applicant consideration for appointment to the position Amber just announced she will not seek re-appointment to.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a) Lacey Historical Society

Shirley Dziedzic introduced new Historical Society member Lisa Wooden and announced Ken Marmion is celebrating 20 years with the Society.

The exhibit in the Lacey Timberland library is displaying 2 ladies swimsuits from the late 1800s and focuses on the resorts in Lacey. Shirley also invited everyone to the annual meeting on Sept. 24, including the new commissioner.

- b) Mari Fleetwood

Mari referred to copies of the Historical Commission minutes that Lori had provided the ad hoc committee and asked who Chan Sogge was and what his relationship to the Historical Commission was. Lori replied that he was a Commissioner who passed away a couple years ago, but was an architect in Lacey who had served on the Historical Commission for many years as a professional.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter to Dan Stuckey RE: Bowker House

Commissioners reviewed a draft of a letter to Bowker House owner Daniel Stuckey, thanking him for the recent tour of the home and asking him to keep the Bowker House on the Lacey Historical Register.

Motion: To accept the letter as written and send it to Mr. Stuckey.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

During the tour of the house, Mr. Stuckey mentioned that he is considering 'gifting' the house to the City of Lacey when he has completed restoration.

Commissioners discussed this possibility, saying the house is a historical treasure but that it might require a great deal of maintenance and up keep. If the offer were made, it should only be accepted "without reservation" and could have a tenant. The Commission wants to make sure the house is preserved.

- b) Lori distributed the Lacey Historical Society newsletter to the Commissioners and called attention to the annual meeting reservation form.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Lori distributed a new calendar of events, with updated events in August, September and October, including Thurston County Through the Decades on 10/6. Lori asked for ideas for the Lacey booth. Commissioners suggested displays about the Chambers family, a working cider press (located upstairs of the Jacob Smith House), which was donated by the Fleetwood Family, and Diane will ask her granddaughter for suggested games from the time period (1825-1850).

OLD BUSINESS

- a) Depot consulting contract

The scope of work and fee proposal will be presented at a meeting on August 20.

- c) Depot Capital Campaign Consultant RFQ
Currently reviewing the scope of work.
- d) Review Fleetwood and Himes Family Interpretive Sign
Both families have approved the interpretive sign.
- e) Revise Rules of Procedure
Commissioners reviewed the proposed revisions to Rules of Procedure.

Motion: To approve the revised Rules of Procedure.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Jacob Smith House Site Improvement Plan Review & Certificate of Appropriateness
Lori has requested an additional \$200,000 in the 2014 budget, to account for the higher cost estimate for the Jacob Smith House renovations. Lori discussed an alternative location for the covered bicycle rack on the back porch up against the west wall of the house.
- b) Lacey Register of Historic Properties: Bowker House Tour 7/29: covered previously under correspondence.
- c) Volunteer newspaper clippings & scanning at the Museum
With local high school kids needing volunteer hours, Lori asked if there is a need at the Museum, for volunteers to clip &/or scan historical newspaper articles. All agreed this would be a good idea, as long as they are closely supervised. Susan Goff may have completed this project.
- d) Weatherwood subdivision historic street names
Lori has not heard back from the gentleman who originally requested historical street signs in the Weatherwood subdivision.
- e) Thurston County Heritage Grant
At the new Curator's suggestion, Lori has begun working on the Thurston County Heritage Grant application.

Motion: To proceed with the Thurston County Heritage Grant application.

The motions was seconded and unanimously approved.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Fleetwood/Long's Pond
Amber is the committee chair and indicated she will keep working on this issue. Kimberley researched the old handwritten land books to get the chain of title. Himes DLC was in 1866, but lived on the land beginning in 1853. Emielene Himes sold to Fleetwoods, who lived there from 1881 – 1971, except for a brief period when sold to a doctor, then the Fleetwood family returned. Mari asked if we were collecting this information to name the pond Fleetwood Pond or Long's Pond. Mari wants to attach a deed from the Fleetwood family for the Lacey school to the application for Washington Board of Geographic Names (meeting is on Oct. 11). Kimberley suggested that it is difficult for a board to overturn a decision made by a previous Board. Amber suggested that the name not come from the Historical Commission and Mari said she plans to submit it. Mari asked the Historical Commission and the Historical Society to attach a letter of support

for the name change to her application. Lori provided copies of old Park Board and Historical Commission minutes to the ad hoc committee members. Lori stated that the City will not support the name change because we have to honor the commitment made to the Long Family. The Park Board authorized Lori at the last Park Board meeting to submit the application naming the pond officially as Long's Pond, but to place a sign recognizing historical pond names on the shoreline. Shirley and others felt that since the commission represents the city that we should not get involved with the name change or a letter of support, but feel that we should recognize the family name close to the family homestead. If the Historic Commission were to support the name change now, it would put our Commission at odds with the City and Park Board. Kimberley suggested and there was discussion about a win-win possibility of naming another feature in Woodland Creek Community Park after the Himes and Fleetwood families. Kimberley asked Mari is she was going to proceed with the application or seek another solution? Mari will speak with David's granddaughter and grandson about their wishes. Mari thanked everyone for doing the research.

STAFF / MUSEUM REPORT

No report.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Arianna said her time as Youth Commissioner has been very interesting and she had a lot of fun going out to local schools, talking to 3rd-5th graders about local history, and hopes the new Youth Commissioner will continue the outreach to local elementary schools. She said it's been fun working with such a "wise crowd" and thanked the Commissioners for their passion for local history. Commissioners thanked Arianna for the great job she's done as the Youth Commissioner.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Rosalie reminded everyone that she will not be at the meetings the rest of the year. With Ken's term expiring, he suggested a new Vice-Chair be elected now, to fill in for Rosalie's planned absences.

Motion: Nominate Kimberley Bauman for Vice-Chair of the Commission.

Kimberley accepted the nomination and the motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a) Lori thanked all those who have volunteered to help keep the Lacey Museum operating until the new Curator comes on.
- b) A woman named Mary Lou contacted Lori about a donation to the Museum. The item is a lovely mirror backed window with a train etched in the glass. Mary Lou would like the item displayed in the new Depot and returned to her if it will not be displayed. Commissioners agreed, that while beautiful, the item is not historic and we have very limited storage space, not to mention the liability of storing the item, until the Depot is complete.
- c) City of Lacey has a 'free day' at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts, for use for a fundraiser, concert etc.

- d) Lori was delighted with the turn out for the Museum Open House. Many visitors she spoke to heard about the Open House in the LHS newsletter, the Senior News and A-board sign on the Pacific Ave. roundabout.

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 18, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at Lacey City Hall