

LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers

PRESENT

Commission: Kimberley Bauman, Shirley Binkley, Fermnell Dowell III and Susan Goff. A quorum was present.

Excused: Yasemin Alptekin, Rosalie Raps Melnick, Kristina Trebil and Megan Wilson.

Staff: Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator; Lori Flemm, Parks & Recreation Director.

Historical Society: Shirley Dziedzic, Nora Brown.

Public: None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Kimberley Bauman.

AGENDA

The following item was deleted from the agenda: 8a. The following items were added to the agenda: Under item 6, 3 pieces of correspondence.

MINUTES

The April 16, 2014 minutes were approved and placed on record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lacey Historical Society newsletter was sent to Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lacey Historical Society (LHS). Shirley Dziedzic reported:

- The LHS summer newsletter will be more in-depth.
- The final meeting before summer will take place on Friday and they will reconvene in the fall.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letter dated April 28, 2014 from Mari Fleetwood. Mrs. Fleetwood demands removal of the Fleetwood Collection.
- b. Letter received May 16, 2014 from Mari Fleetwood. Mrs. Fleetwood denies a request for a personal meeting with the Mayor and reiterates her demand.
- c. May 19, 2014 letter from Mayor Ryder to Mari Fleetwood. The Mayor acknowledges receipt of the letter and expresses his disappointment. He forwards the letter to the Museum Curator for her review and response.
- d. May 19, 2014 letter from Rosalie Raps Melnick. Mrs. Melnick resigns from the Commission and includes an attachment of her accomplishments and support of Lacey history and the Lacey Museum.

On record statements were made regarding the four pieces of correspondence as follows:

- Shirley Dziedzic on behalf of LHS stated that 1) they would like for the Fleetwood Collection to be preserved and 2) they feel they must maintain neutral position on this issue as a Society.

- Kimberley Bauman stated that Ms. Melnick was targeted and bullied and we are being bullied now. We need to be prepared to fight and she, for one, will not back down. We are all entitled to our opinions, individually. One person does not make a decision. It is the entire Commission, which is why there are many Commissioners. If one person has a negative opinion about one piece in the collection that does not mean something bad is going to happen to it.
- Susan Goff stated that the Museum Curator, as the Mayor has directed, should respond to the letter.
- Lori Flemm stated that Ms. Melnick wanted the Museum Curator to be protected from this because she was not here when any of this happened and that Ms. Melnick is concerned about the response letter coming from the curator.
- Shirley Binkley stated that she agreed wholeheartedly with Ms. Bauman's statements and is confident that Ms. Quinn Valcho will handle the situation professionally.
- Fernnell Dowell stated his agreement with what has been said and reiterated that each person is entitled to their opinion and that is why there are multiple Commissioners.
- Ms. Flemm sent around the updated roster of Commissioners and called everyone's attention to Ms. Melnick's many accomplishments.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- a. Thursday, June 12, 7 pm: City Council meeting to announce Lacey Historian of the Year and proclaim Lacey History Month. Commissioners are encouraged to attend.
- b. Date of Walking Tours. The walking tour of the historic neighborhood will be held June 21st at 10 am and will start and end at the Lacey Museum.
- c. June 14, Modern Resources workshop. Volunteers are needed on Saturday, June 14 so that Ms. Quinn Valcho may attend. Ms. Flemm will be there part of the day. Intern Hannah Meranda will be there, and Yasemin Alptekin previously said she might be available, to be confirmed when she returns from Turkey.
- d. June 4th, Open Records training. There will be a carpool leaving from City Hall for Commissioners who plan on attending. Ms. Flemm reminded everyone that a meeting of 3 or more Commissioners at any time is considered a public meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Agenda item deleted.
- b. Part I Section 1.0 Introduction to Museum Policy Manual.

Motion carried: Approved as written.

- c. Part II Section 1.0 Collections Description and Scope.

Motion carried: Approved, with the following changes:

- In 1.1, #3, last sentence: It is assumed that when they no longer serve their educational purpose, they will be retired.
- In 1.1, #6, this phrase will be added to the last sentence: "than the permanent collection."

- In 1.2, #2, change “North Thurston School District” to “North Thurston Public Schools boundaries.”

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Recruitment of Youth Commissioner & 2 General Commissioners. Megan Wilson’s term expires in September. Kristina Trebil has elected to return to the Commission. Ms. Binkley’s second term is about to expire and she may return should no one apply with professional qualifications. Ms. Melnick’s position is open and will be advertised. Elections due to vacancies were tabled until more Commissioners are present.
- b. Lacey Historian of the Year nominations. One nomination was received.

Motion carried: Approve the nomination for Richard Jones as the 2014 Historian of the Year.

- c. Lacey History Month. The City Manager has asked that we put together a presentation for the City Council meeting on June 12.

Ad Hoc COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Policy Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Dowell, the interim chair reported that the Ad Hoc business was covered above.

STAFF / MUSEUM REPORT

- a. Thurston County Through the Decades. Ms. Quinn Valcho reported that the event was a success: many contacts were made and the Depot project was shared with a number of people.
- b. Exhibit Planning & Development Team. The next meeting is May 29th.
- c. Curator’s Report. Ms. Quinn Valcho reported:
 - There were 38 visitors to the Museum in April, including a tour of Cub Scouts.
 - Staff completed six customer service requests, including one from a Brown University student doing research on Lacey Plywood and the Sunrise Lions Club who were doing research for their anniversary project.
 - Volunteers gave 51.5 hours in April to the Museum and the Commission.
 - Past Perfect data entry completed this month: 29 contacts, 52 accession records, 85 scanned and attached documents, 7 temporary custody records, 1 photo record and 1 object record.
 - Four school presentations were made in April to approximately 80 students.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Ms.Goff shared that it is Washington State’s Historic Preservation Month and invited people to take posters if they would like one.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Ms. Bauman made the suggestion that Ms. Melnick should be recognized for her service to the Lacey Historical Commission.

Motion carried: To give a certificate to Ms. Melnick in recognition of her service.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. Ms. Flemm circulated the application to advertise local events on the electronic message board at the RAC.
- b. Ms. Flemm circulated flyers advertising Wild Waves tickets for purchase through the Parks & Rec Department with proceeds going to the summer lunch program.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 18, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at Lacey City Hall