

LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2016 6:00 p.m.
Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers

PRESENT

Commission: Yasemin Alptekin, Fernnell Dowell III, Erich Ebel, Joseph Govednik, and Alan Tyler.

Excused: Amber Granger and Kristina Trebil.

Staff: Erin Quinn Valcho.

Historical Society: Lanny Weaver.

Public: Shirley Binkley.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Erich Ebel, Chair.

AGENDA

Three items were added to the agenda:

4b. Kimberley Bauman recognition

4c. CLG Training

7a. A Midsummer's Ice Cream, July 8th

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the agenda as amended.

MINUTES

The November 18, 2015 and December 16, 2015 minutes were approved and placed on record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Update on Lori Flemm. Ms. Flemm is on medical leave; she is at the University of Washington Medical Center and is waiting for test results. All Commission business should be routed through Ms. Quinn Valcho in her absence.
- b. Kimberley Bauman recognition. City Council recognized Ms. Bauman for her 5 years of service at their January 14, 2015 meeting. She was moved by the award. Chairman Ebel encouraged everyone to attend these type of events in the future.
- c. CLG Training. Ms. Valcho passed out information on the March 15, 2016 CLG Training in Tacoma.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Lacey Historical Society (LHS). Ms. Weaver reported:
- b. The Society has had a challenging year with several board members either being sick, passing away or having spouses pass away.
- c. LHS is compiling a list of what they have accomplished over the years. They have identified their mantra as: "to be a service for the early citizens of Lacey and to be stewards protecting the historical heritage they have given to us."
- d. Ms. Weaver wrote a history of the property in response to a request by the developers of a new senior housing project on the corner of Carpenter and Pacific.
- e. Others: None.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- a. A Midsummer's Ice Cream, July 8th. Mr. Ebel, on behalf of the Lacey Days Committee, requested that an hour be added to the event to allow for more visitors.

Motion carried: To change the time of A Midsummer's Ice Cream on Friday, July 8th from 6-8 p.m. to 5-8 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Update on Chamber's Prairie Cabin Logs. Ms. Valcho reported that the logs had to be vacated from our free storage location by January 15th. The Public Works staff moved them to a trailer at the Steilacoom Road well site. This should be a long-term solution. Ms. Valcho is working on arranging a meeting with the historic architecture expert who previously evaluated the logs. Many of the logs have sustained damage and may not be salvageable.
Mr. Ebel raised the issue of having Evergreen State College do an archaeological dig at the site. Ms. Valcho explained that the 2016 dig was already scheduled at the Bush Homestead site and funded by a grant. Ms. Valcho will bring up the idea for a future project with Professor Krotscheck.
- b. Recruitment of Commissioner to fill the vacant position. Ms. Valcho reported that two applications have been received for the vacant position. Interviews are being scheduled and it is expected that by the February meeting, we should know the Mayor's selection even if the Council has yet to approve it. Ms. Valcho will be filling in for Ms. Flemm while she is out on leave.
- c. 2015 Thurston County Heritage Grant. Ms. Valcho reported that the 2015 grant was completed and distributed copies of the historic walking tour brochure to the Commissioners.
- d. 2016 Thurston County Heritage Grant. Ms. Valcho reported that the Lacey Museum received \$5000 to begin cataloguing the Lacey Leader Collection, the negatives and contact prints that were from the Lacey Leader newspaper. She is trying to decide how to best spend the \$3000 received from the Nisqually Tribe, either by maximizing cataloguing hours or purchasing computer equipment.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Commissioner Tyler's Presentation of 50th Anniversary Planning Committee's Presentation to Lacey City Council. This was tabled until February.
- b. 2016 Work Plan. The Commission reviewed the Work Plan.

Motion carried: To approve the 2016 Work Plan with the following changes:

- **Remove Erich Ebel from the 50th Anniversary Gala Committee**
- **Remove "Produce brochure for historic properties on the walking tour."**

- c. 2015 Accomplishments. The Commission reviewed the Work Plan.

Motion carried: To approve the 2015 Accomplishments Final Draft as written.

Ms. Valcho will request a February City Council work session to share the Commission's 2015 accomplishments and 2016 work plan. Mr. Ebel will be asked to present and all Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

- d. Deaccession & Disposal Policy. The Commission reviewed the policy and Ms. Valcho explained each section.

Motion carried: To approve the Deaccession Policy as written.

- e. November & December Acquisitions. The Commission reviewed the acquisitions.

Motion carried: To approve the November & December 2015 Acquisitions.

Ad Hoc COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Policy/StEPs. In the absence of Ms. Trebil, Ms. Valcho reported that the Committee was scheduled to meet next week, but that there was a conflicting tour booked at the Museum. The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 24, 2015 at 6 p.m.
- b. Lacey Days. Mr. Ebel reported that the Committee met at 5:15 p.m. just prior to the Commission meeting. Goals and outcomes were reviewed and revised, including adding the goal of tying this year's event to the 50th anniversary and adding that increasing awareness of Lacey history is integral to the event. The attendance goal was revised to 300 people which is made possible by adding another hour to the event. The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2016 at 5:15 p.m.
- c. 50th Anniversary Committee. Ms. Valcho reported that the Executive Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month and consists of subcommittee reports where most of the work is now being done. Mr. Tyler reported that the Gala committee has yet to meet. Ms. Valcho reported on the work of the Historic Committee, including writing articles for ThurstonTalk.com, outlining an exhibit and a presentation.

STAFF / MUSEUM REPORT

Ms. Valcho provided a written copy of the December report and presented the 2015 annual report of the Lacey Museum. Highlights included:

- 42 volunteers gave 843 hours valued at \$23,202
- An eagle scout created a new train-themed donation box for the museum
- 743 visitors; a 56% increase. Much of this was in events, but significant increases were seen in walk-ins, tours and museum business also.
- The largest attendance day was Saturday
- 243 people visited the museum at events
- 13 tours served 167 people
- 6 in-school presentations served 216 students
- 365 people touched through booths at Thurston County Through the Decades
- Ken Balsley was presented the Lacey Historian of the Year award and Zelma Bernd was presented with the first ever Lacey Pioneer Award
- 74 customer service requests were filled (a 7% increase)
- 366 items were catalogued; 711 images attached to those records
- 21 acquisitions accounting for about 350-400 items
- Marketing for A Midsummer's Ice Cream increased visitation overall
- 2016 Museum goals were proposed

The Commissioners congratulated Ms. Valcho on having accomplished so much in 2015.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Dowell thanked the Commission for allowing him a leave of absence and stated he is glad to be back. The Commissioners stated they are glad for him to be back.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Ebel would like to invite Aaron Davenport, the volunteer who created the donation box, to a future Commission meeting to be recognized for his accomplishment. The Commission agreed and Ms. Valcho said she would contact him.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 17 2016, 6:00 p.m. at Lacey City Hall