

BENTON COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

**Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 11, 2021**

The meeting was held remotely through GoToMeeting.

A. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm. In attendance were Larry Landis, Chair, and Cody Hull, Scott McClure, Tanya Freeman, Nancy Taniguchi, and Jay Sexton. Pat Depa, Associate Planner, was present representing the City of Philomath.

Inga Williams, Associate Planner, provided staff support for the meeting.

Introductions were done. Elections were added to the agenda.

B. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Comm. Taniguchi to approve the minutes from November 23, 2020, without changes; seconded by Comm. Hull. The minutes were approved unanimously.

C. Very Preliminary Discussion regarding Benton HRC overseeing Philomath historic resources – Possibilities

Ms. Williams outlined some process possibilities for the County HRC to oversee Philomath resources. She stated it might take an interlocal agreement between the two entities and that Philomath would probably have to adopt a historic resources protection code. Pat Depa discussed the City's interest in having the county do so. He stated he would be willing to work to blend the two entities together and that Chris Workman, City Manager, is behind the idea. Ms. Williams said she would contact SHPO and see what suggestions they have and if there are any examples in Oregon where this is happening.

Comm. Taniguchi made a motion to support exploring the method for bringing Philomath under the Benton County HRC. Seconded by Comm. Freeman. Unanimous vote to approve.

Pat Depa left at 7:09 PM.

D. Discussion regarding Goal Setting, future surveys, and updating old survey information

Comm. Landis asked the commission what goals they would like to pursue for the coming years, in the short term and in the long term. Comm. Freeman stated that she thought the commission should start with reviewing the existing surveys. She said that she checked 5 or 6 of the items in the list that was sent and that they didn't come up in the SHPO database, that the resource ID isn't searchable. Comm. Landis thought that SHPO would send the entire database but they only sent a partial list. He asked staff to get the full list from SHPO as the commission would like to know the full extent of what they need to work on. Once received, staff will portion out the list geographically.

Comm. Landis then asked the commission what they wanted to do next. Generally the members stated to continue surveying properties in the 1935 to 1970 period. Some grant money to support that effort would be helpful. Comm. Taniguchi stated she wants to get the update complete before

moving on to something new. Ms. Williams stated she would keep an eye out for grants just in case so that we did not miss an opportunity.

E. Discussion about Historic Preservation Month

The commission discussed a possible theme for the month. Since we have all been very isolated and divided, Comm. Freeman suggested that the theme deal with connections between people. Mary's Peak Club was mentioned as a way to get native American connections involved. Comm. Hull brought up the old railroad trestle near him, and the Applegate Trail was mentioned. It was suggested that we ask the tribes about gatherings that used to take place in Benton County. These gatherings could take place at any time in history.

F. Discussion regarding recruitment of new HRC members

Some suggestions for recruitment were to send to PreservationWORKS and place notice in the Historical Society newsletter. Place it on the state's listserve. Ad in the newspaper. All agreed that the most likely way to replace a member would be from personal outreach.

G. Election of Officers

Comm. Taniguchi nominated Scott McClure as Chair, this was seconded by Comm. Hull. Comm. Sexton nominated Comm. Taniguchi as Vice-Chair, this was seconded by Comm. Hull. On vote the new officers were approved unanimously.

H. Items from the Public

None

I. Items from the Commissioners

None

J. Other Business

None

K. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.