



**Benton  
County**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT**

**Planning Division**

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## **BENTON COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION**

### **Meeting Minutes Monday, February 8, 2021**

The meeting was held remotely through GoToMeeting.

#### **A. Call to Order.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm. In attendance were Scott McClure, Chair, Larry Landis, Cody Hull, Tanya Freeman, Doug Eaton, Nancy Taniguchi, and Jay Sexton.

Jason Allen, Survey & Inventory Program Coordinator, was present representing the State Historic Preservation Office. Rosalind Keeney was present representing the City of Corvallis HRC.

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

#### **B. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Comm. Taniguchi to approve the minutes from January 11, 2021, without changes; seconded by Comm. Freeman. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **C. Continuing Discussion regarding Surveys**

Jason Allen started with a background review of the why the commission was having this discussion for the benefit of Corvallis Comm. Keeney. Jason stated that he was viewing the work as two distinct projects, one was to find the resources without addresses and get latitude and longitude coordinates and the other is to note the conditions of the resources. The second project could involve a lot of prep work and he would recommend that it get pushed off till at least the summer.

After a question from Comm. Landis on whether county staff reports could be attached to resources in the state's database, Jason said that they could be. He said that the ability of the state to take and keep digital data has expanded with the reduction in price for storage. Any information that can be gathered for a property will be useful.

Jason went over Google Earth and street view and how to use those for checking on resources. Sometimes real estate records, such as Zillow or Realtor.com, are very useful because they have photos of the structures on the property and those are usually accessible even if the property is no longer for sale. Jason stated that the highest priority in this search is to make sure that the building is still on the property.

Comm. Landis suggested putting the information in Google sheets so that the same information can be accessed by everyone.

Jason suggested that getting the public involved through advertisement about the project could be helpful. The county could request that owners send in information regarding the historic resource. Also that taking pictures from the right-of-way is legal.

Ms. Williams was tasked with giving each commissioner a few properties to try out.

The meeting was suspended at 6:49 so that the joint meeting could commence. The HRC meeting began again at 7:30.

#### **D. Update on Philomath Partnership Potential**

Ms. Williams updated the Board on her research. Kuri Gill, SHPO representative, suggested contacting Deschutes County because they partner with the City of Sisters. Ms. Williams looked at the Deschutes preservation code and also the City of Sisters. The Deschutes code mentions the City of Sister. The City's code mentions the Deschutes code as being the overriding code. Ms. Williams still has questions on how they coordinate. It does point to the fact that Philomath will need to adopt some code referring to the County's ordinance and our code will need to reference Philomath.

Kuri said we can currently use the CLG funds within the cities if we want to.

Comm. Landis – wanted clarification that if we did take on oversight of Philomath it would mean that the Benton HRC would do public hearings for Philomath resources – Yes. Would we also then list properties within Philomath on the County register? Ms. Williams stated that she imagined they would go on the County's local register.

#### **E. Schedule Cornelius TR**

Wanted to make sure everyone would be available for the March 15 date for a public hearing.

#### **F. Items from the Public**

None

#### **G. Items from the Commissioners**

Comm. Freeman – updating survey conversation – stated that she felt a little more pressure to update the survey rather sooner than not – said she was showing a cute 1939 house and that sadly a lot of buyers seemed to be interested in tearing it down. Brought to mind that we are going to lose these resources if we don't check on them. And if they tear it down we won't know anything about it.

How do we deal with properties that the state has no have information on? Can do a search doing the ownership database by the year the structures were built. Once we get the state's database updated we can do a cross reference and see which ones aren't listed.

Comm. Eaton asked when his appointment ends – June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Comm. Taniguchi – asked that for the replacement for Comm. Eaton's position, does the historic structure have to be listed – No – it can be any historic resource. Just needs to be in Benton County.

#### **H. Other Business**

None

#### **I. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.**