

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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BENTON COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes Monday, August 19, 2019

Willamette Grange, 27555 Greenberry Road, Corvallis, OR 97333

A. Call to Order and Introductions.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. In attendance were Larry Landis, Chair, Scott McClure, vice-chair, Cody Hull, Doug Eaton, Nancy Taniguchi, and Tanya Freeman. Patti Thrall was excused.

Inga Williams, Associate Planner, provided staff support for the meeting and was the Staff Recorder.

Members of public that were present were: Jay Sexton and Toni Hoyman for the Willamette Grange, Brad Probst, Corvallis Odd Fellow.

B. Tour of Willamette Grange - addition to agenda

Jay Sexton and Toni Hoyman led a tour of the grange hall.

C. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of June 17, 2019 meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Hull moved approval and Commissioner Freeman seconded.

D. Discussion of Roof Replacement for the Frantz-Dunn House

Ms. Williams introduced the topic. The Natural Areas and Parks (Parks) Department needs to replace the roof and Shane Galloway contacted Ms. Williams regarding the process to get it approved by the HRC. He stated that the Department was looking to use the CertainTeed Brand, "Landmark" 30 year rated designer shingle in the Georgetown Gray color. Because of his prior extensive involvement with the House, Ms. Williams sent the proposal to Dave Pinyerd to review and he stated that, "Yeah, all those examples look like way too varied in the color for me. They resemble no other material but a composition roof of the 21st century. That's why I suggested cheap three-tab the first time around so at least the composition shingles would lay uniformly and be colored uniformly somewhat like a cedar shingle roof." Ms. Williams relayed this back to Mr. Galloway and included some links to websites advertising imitation cedar shingles. Laurie Starha, Parks Director, had a discussion with the Board of County Commissioners on August 14 and informed them of the various roof options. She let Ms. Williams know that the Board had chosen to go with the architectural shingle with the option to replace the roof later with something more historically appropriate.

Discussion ensued amongst the members. Comm. McClure stated that he agreed with Mr. Pinyerd's opinion and that the architectural style of shingle looks very contemporary. Comm. Freeman stated that she was also concerned because the house is set down the hill and a visitor looking down at the house sees the roof. Comm. McClure stated that the roof calls attention to itself. Comm. Landis said that the Parks Department made the effort to replace the porch on the house with something that is very much like the original and so a precedent has been set. There is also the concern that if they replace the roof with something not appropriate that it will affect the historic value of the House. Also, if they replace the roof with 3-tab asphalt then a public hearing will not be necessary but if they go with the architectural shingle a public hearing is necessary.

The Commissioners agreed that they preferred the roof to look like the one on the Commander's House. At a minimum, if the architectural shingles needed to be used, then a change to color to Silver Birch would be more appropriate as the color was more uniform. Ms. Williams stated she would relay this discussion to the Parks Director.

E. Discussion on Model Historic Preservation Code

Ms. Williams referred to the documents that she had mailed to the commission members the week prior indicating that the Chapter 89 revisions were a work-in-progress. The reason for the update is that the code is outdated, some provisions need to clarified, and there needs to uniformity in the language. This update coincides with the States' update to the model code and Ms. Williams is using that as a basis for the changes. Comm. Taniguchi stated that she would like to add a section detailing how a resource that had been taken off the Register could be placed back on the Register. There was some discussion about how items had been taken off the Register and why, usually because the owners did not understand the value of having the resource listed. Ms. Williams explained that she need to complete the draft then take it to the Board of County Commissioners to get their approval to move ahead with the amendment. Once that occurred, Ms. Williams would give the HRC access to the draft document using the new Konveio public commenting system.

F. Women in History Discussion

The HRC discussed the State's request to document important historic events around women's rights. Comm. Landis brought up the fact that the vote for the bond measure for funding of the Van Buren Street Bridge was the very first time Corvallis women were allowed to vote; this occurred in 1912. There was discussion regarding this topic at the Heritage Conference next year and Comm. Landis assured the board that it would be part of the conference. He also indicated that OSU was getting a small exhibit from the National Archives and that OSU would not be able to host it for more than a few months. He asked for suggestions for venue to host the exhibit. Mary's River Grange was suggested.

Mr. Probst stated that the Corvallis Odd Fellows was the grange to suggest that women should be allowed membership into the fraternal order. He said they asked for change in the rules by the state's organization and were able to get the regulations changed.

Comm. Hull suggested that the HRC put together a session proposal for the Heritage Conference regarding local stories about this topic. There was general agreement. The HRC will continue to discuss this and Comm. Landis was going to look up how to relay the information to the State's compilation website.

G. Items from the Public

Mr. Probst stated that he wanted to discuss a renovation that his order was doing to a portion of a historic building in Corvallis. The HRC gave him some suggestions on how to approach the City's HRC with the proposal.

H. Items from the Commissioners and Staff

Comm. Hull asked Ms. Williams if anyone from the Alsea Grange had made contact with her as he had given a few of them her contact information. The answer was no.

- I. Other Business Ms. Williams related that the Parks Department was starting the Parks Master Plan update and that part of the update would include how the County would move ahead on management of the historic resources that they own. The HRC indicated that they would be interested in being a part of that discussion.
- **J.** Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.