



CLARK COUNTY

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Public Service Center
1300 Franklin St., 6th Floor
Vancouver, WA
www.clark.wa.gov/planning/historic

MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, September 2, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

These are summary, not verbatim, minutes. Audio recordings are available on the Historic Preservation Commission’s page at www.clark.wa.gov/community-planning/historic-preservation-commission.

Members Present:	Sean Denniston, Julie Bohn, Feli Garcia, Andy Gregg, Greg Fuz, Michelle Kapitanovich, and Donald Trost
Members Absent:	
Staff Present:	Sharon Lumbantobing and Jacqui Kamp (Clark County), Mark Person (City of Vancouver)
Guests:	Brad Richardson (Summit Grove Lodge)

- Roll Call & Introductions:** Commission members and staff introduced themselves.
- Approval of the Meeting Minutes from August 5, 2020.** Fuz made a motion to approve the minutes and Kapitanovich seconded. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
- Approval of the Meeting Minutes from August 18, 2020.** Andy Gregg made a motion to approve the minutes and Trost seconded. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
- Public Comment** on any items NOT on the agenda. There were no public comments
- Public Hearing: Amend the nomination to the Clark County Heritage Register for Summit Grove Lodge (30810 NE Timmen Rd, Ridgefield, WA)**

Denniston opened the hearing. No commission members had any ex-parte contacts and conflicts of interest. Denniston stated that he volunteered to assist with writing the nomination of Summit Grove Lodge on the WA State Heritage Register but was not paid to do so and was not involved in the update of CCHR nomination.

Lumbantobing gave a summary of the Staff Report, Findings and Recommendation of HST 2020-00002. The site was listed on the Clark County Heritage Register in 2003 and listed on the Washington State Heritage in 2019. In the process of conducting the research for the Washington State Heritage Register, it was discovered that there are a great many factual inaccuracies and lack of evidence to support many of the claims in the 2003 nomination to the



Clark County Heritage Register. This amended nomination to the Clark County Heritage Register is intended to correct those inaccuracies with an updated nomination form.

Clark County Code 40.250.030(f) provides the criteria for determining eligibility for Designation in the Clark County Heritage Register. A summary of staff findings is as follows:

- a. Summit Grove Lodge is locally significant as it is the only remaining physical structure of what was once a thriving auto park on the Pacific Highway in Clark County. The lodge continues to be the singular remaining example in Clark County of the rustic style and “Naturalism” movement of the early 20th century tied to the auto tourism phenomenon
- b. The lodge was completed by William and Mary Marshall as the centerpiece for their auto park on a recently established section of the Pacific Highway. The main lodge portion of Summit Grove Lodge has remained intact since 1927.
- c. The site’s period of significance date is 1927.
- d. The site falls into three of the additional categories identified in CCC 40.250.030(f), which are:

Criteria 1: It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of national, state, or local history: The Summit Grove Lodge is associated with the auto camps that arose in the 1920s. This expansion in ownership resulted in the construction of many “auto trails,” or highways,

Criteria 4: It exemplifies or reflects special elements of the county’s history: Since its completion in 1927, the main lodge portion of Summit Grove Lodge has remained intact and retains the majority of its original elements despite changes in ownership and a nearly devastating fire in 1980.

Criteria 5: It is associated with the lives of persons significant in national, state, or local history: Summit Grove Lodge is associated with John Johnson and his Donation Land Claim patent filed on July 2, 1866. The next owner of the Summit Grove site was Thomas Headley, who was an early and prominent figure in the history of La Center, Washington. William and Mary Marshall purchased the property in 1927. Marshall served two terms as Clark County auditor and one term as State Representative.

Staff recommends that the commission approve the amendment to the Clark County Heritage Register nomination for Summit Grove Lodge as submitted.

The commissions’ questions and answers from the staff included:

- What will happen to the old nomination? It will be removed from the website but will be connected to this amended application.

Brad Richardson, the applicant, stated that in the process of preparing the 2019 nomination to the Washington State Register, we found that the original 2003 nomination had a lack of sourcing for the material cited and there were numerous inaccuracies. We researched and documented our findings for the State Register nomination, which the amended CCHR nomination is based on.

The commissioners had no questions from the applicant.

No public comment was made during the public comment period.

The public hearing was closed.

The commission deliberated.

Gregg made a motion that the HPC concur with the staff findings and recommendation to approve the amendment. Bohn seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken to approve the motion. Denniston stated that the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

6. Public Hearing: Nomination to the Clark County Heritage Register for Old Cemetery (2700 E Mill Plain Boulevard)

Denniston opened the hearing. No commission members had any ex-parte contacts and conflicts of interest.

Person gave a summary of the Staff Report, Findings and Recommendation. The Old Cemetery is located at 2700 E. Mill Plain Blvd, Vancouver, WA. The nominated site is over 50 years of age, the nomination references that burials began on the site in 1868. Some of the Hidden family members, Esther Short, Slocum family members are laid to rest here.

Criterion 5 is met as the site is associated with the lives of persons significant in national, state, or local history. Criterion 9 is met as the site is a cemetery or burial site which derives its significance from age, distinctive design features, or from association with historic events, or cultural patterns. Due to the persons of significance that are buried in the cemetery and the distinctive design of the site, staff finds the criteria of 17.39.070 have been met. Staff recommends that the commission approve the nomination of the Old Cemetery to the Clark County Heritage Register.

The commissions' questions and answers for staff included:

- Are there any other cemeteries on the Clark County Heritage Register? Sunnyside cemetery is on the CCHR.
- Are people still being buried in the Old Cemetery? It is no longer active for purchases of plots. But there are families have purchased plots before it closed.
- What prompted the city to nominate the Old Cemetery now: Jan Bader, former city staff, started this as an effort to put a layer of protection on the site and be eligible to apply for state funding.

Brad Richardson, the applicant stated the Old Cemetery was in use from the Hudson's Bay era.

The commissions' questions and answers for the applicant included:

- Did the City of Vancouver request this to be listed? Yes, the City of Vancouver hired the Clark County Museum to write the nomination.
- Is this cemetery associated with a church? This is a municipal cemetery.

No public comment was made during the public comment period.

The public hearing closed.

The commission deliberated. Cemeteries often get overlooked and several commission members were pleased that this is being nominated. There was a lack of information about women buried at the cemetery as compared to men.

Kapitanovich made a motion that the HPC concur with the staff findings and recommendation to approve the amendment with the condition to verify/document or remove the Heritage Tree information in the nomination. Bohn seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken to approve the motion. Denniston stated that the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

7. Discussion of roof replacement at the Slocum House and the Clark County Historic Museum

Person stated that both properties are on the Clark County Heritage Register. The same roof material and color will be used so this only requires staff review for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

The Commission asked how old the roof is on the two buildings, what was the original roofing material, and how long roofs last? Staff will have to find out and get back to the HPC in October about what the original roofing material was. Neither roofs are original to the building. The roof replacement will have the same visual appearance. Roofs typically last twenty years.

8. New Business

- DAHP awarded a \$15,000 grant to the HPC to hire a consultant to conduct a mid-century modern context and cultural resource inventory of 40-50 buildings in the county.
- The HPC reviewed the draft letter to the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) on the Draft Washington State Historic Preservation Plan for 2021-2026: Inhabiting Our History. Comments are due by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Kapitanovich made a motion to approve the comments to DAHP. Trost seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Old Business & Updates

Commission Members had the following questions:

- What is the status of the demolition subcommittee? Denniston replied that the HPC could reconvene this subcommittee and appoint one new member. Denniston and Trost are subcommittee members and one new member is needed. Fuz volunteered to join this subcommittee.
- What is the status of the Clark County Cultural Resource Inventory? Lumbantobing replied that the HPC was just awarded a grant from DAHP to conduct a cultural resource inventory of 40-50 mid-century modern properties, and staff is using \$1,500 from another DAHP grant and hired the Clark County Historic Museum to scan all the county's CCHR nomination forms and cultural resource inventory forms and they will be posted on the county's historic website page so they will be publicly available.
- Gregg and Garcia will attend the unveiling of the Camas collage on Friday, which is a Historic Promotion Grants recipient.

10. Adjourment

This meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.