



CLARK COUNTY

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

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

MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 - 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, Sarah Fox, Alex Gall, and Andy Gregg
Members Absent:	Roch Manley, Michelle Kapitanovich, and Robert Hinds,
Staff Present:	Sharon Lumbantobing and Jacqui Kamp (Clark County); Mark Person and Jan Bader (City of Vancouver)
Guests:	Holly Chamberlain, Nancy McCarter, Nick Fazio (Cowlitz County)

- I. **Roll Call & Introductions:** Commission members and staff introduced themselves.
- II. **Approval of the Meeting Minutes from February 6, 2019.** Gregg moved to approve the minutes and Gall seconded. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
- III. **Demolition Committee Update**

Cultural Resources Protection Summit, May 22-23, 2019, in Poulsbo, WA. Two to three members of the demo committee are invited to participate in a panel discussion on demolition permits. Staff will figure out how much budget is available and report back to the committee.

A historic (but not registered) property on 21st and Franklin was recently demolished and was twice evaluated and considered to be of historical value. For properties that aren't listed on any register, and even those that are, we don't have a process in place to document them.

Yesterday, the county received the grant agreement from DAHP for the demolition permit study and the county will issue the contract to the consultant to start the work in April. Alex will be cc'ed on communications with the consultant and will be the communication bridge to the HPC demo committee.

- IV. **Rules and Procedures Subcommittee Update**



Kamp gave an overview of what changes need to be made to update the Rules and Procedures manual. The bylaws were discussed and the remaining sections will be reviewed by the HPC in successive meetings. The revised HPC bylaws are based on DAHP's model bylaws for Certified Local Governments. Kamp highlighted numbered items that require further discussion. HPC members gave input on revisions.

Denniston stated that the Rules and Procedures should include guidance on how the commission will provide input on the Vancouver Heritage Overlay District.

V. New Business

- Paper Reduction Plan: Are printouts needed for everyone for every meeting or can commission members bring their own printouts and we rely on screen?

The HPC agreed that staff will bring one desk copy to share and will rely on the screen.

VI. Old Business & Updates

- CLG Grant request, 5 day NAPC conference in Tacoma, July 22-26-2020. How many actually plan to attend?

HPC suggests applying for grant funding for 7 people. If the grant is awarded, then we can get a final determination of how many people will actually attend.

Denniston stated that he will be attending the Association of Preservation Technology (APT) Symposium in Philadelphia in April and in Miami in November.

- HPC 2019 budget: Old Cemetery CCHR nomination funding request

Bader stated that there is a resident requesting to put the Old Cemetery (off Mill Plain and Grant) on the CCHR. Is HPC willing to allocate some of the HPC budget to fund a consultant to write the nomination to the CCHR? The HPC requested that staff look at the conference budget for the Cultural Resources Summit first to determine how much is available and bring the cemetery item forward to another HPC meeting. A suggestion was made for the HPC to discuss developing a priority list of buildings that they would like to see be listed on the CCHR, in order to determine which CCHR nomination requests to fund in which order.

VII. Public Comment:

Nancy McCarter, representing Hough neighborhood, read from her written testimony that was submitted as part of the record.

Comments from the HPC:

The HPC is sympathetic to McCarter's testimony and efforts and stated that this ties into the HPC's demolition permit study.

The HPC would like to be included in transportation proposals, like TriMet and the Vine, but is often included late or not at all.

The HPC noted that a property or district being listed on the WA state register does not have regulatory review.

Chamberlain, who wrote the WA state nomination for Hough, stated that it's primarily an honorary register, not a regulatory register. It was hoped that the neighborhood would be interested in getting on the local register at a later time. The WA state register does not monitor individual properties in the Hough district.

A question was asked as to whether SEPA review is triggered by the city's Westside Bike Mobility proposal.

SEPA comes into play only when the project is a recipient of state funds.

It was suggested that the HPC could address neighborhood association meetings to get historic preservation on their agenda.

Does the city have any obligation to help Hough Neighborhood Association get on the local register as a historic district?

Bader explained that there are design guidelines that have to be imposed and 50% of the residents have to vote to approve the guidelines, which is hard to get. This effort takes a lot of staff time and has been tried unsuccessfully in the past in a different neighborhood.

The HPC asked if the neighborhood residents could do the legwork to make it happen.

Bader replied that the neighborhood doesn't have the capacity to develop design guidelines and staff would need to do that.

The HPC stated that the HPC can do a lot in terms of advocacy, but listing a building or district on the CCHR offers the only regulatory protection.

Advocacy is one of the roles of the HPC and now that this bike plan is on the HPC's radar, the HPC can talk to city transportation planning staff. The council work session will be held on March 25 and public comment will be taken.

Gregg made a motion for the HPC to send a letter to the city council with a copy to the city staff project manager to encourage them to take into account the Hough neighborhood's historic designation on the Washington state register when moving forward with the Westside Bike Mobility Plan. A friendly amendment was made to authorize the chair to write this letter and add that the HPC wants to be a party of record on the plans and development of this area. Gall seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Nick Fazio, assistant long range planner and historic preservation program manager in Cowlitz County, shared that Cowlitz had a similar experience with the historic preservation commission not being invited and included to weigh in on historic preservation at all levels of planning stages. Someone from Cowlitz Public Works always attends Cowlitz historic preservation commission meetings. Cowlitz Historic Preservation Commission uses SEPA authority as a tool to make substantive comments on projects that have state funding and that will have an impact on historic resources. If DAHP comments on a SEPA in Cowlitz county, then Cowlitz Historic Preservation Commission will likely also comment on the same SEPA.

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.