

MINUTES – LANGLEY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

August 9, 2011

Langley City Hall

Present: David Rogan- Levine, Niki Barr, Aaron Coates, Bob Waterman.

Absent: Marty Fernandez, Linda Beeman, Brena Gustafson

Chair Bob Waterman called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Bob asked if there were corrections to the July 12 minutes. **Aaron moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Niki seconded the motion and the minutes were adopted unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS.

Plaques. The need to finalize obtaining plaques to be placed on properties listed on the Register of Historic Places was discussed. David raised the question of how to pay for them. Bob mentioned that the money donated to the City by the South Whidbey Historical Society for use by the HPC would not be available as previously thought. It is needed to reimburse Linda Beeman for costs she incurred in producing the exhibit at the library during Historic Preservation Month.

It was decided that the idea that Commission members would pay for the first 5 plaques was too much to ask based on the current prices, and we should look for other sources of funding instead. Bob volunteered to check with the City Treasurer regarding the legality of soliciting funds for specific projects like the plaques.

David volunteered to review all the information the Commission has generated regarding plaques and report back at the September meeting.

History walk. David asked whether it would be possible to put the booklet created by former Commission member, Harrison Goodall, on an electronic format. Bob will send David an electronic copy for him to work with. Aaron distributed information about various sizes of “Z-Cards” that might also be used to produce a hard copy version. David and Aaron agreed to explore this possibility.

Potential Register nomination updates.

1. Breedlove house: Niki reported that she is still waiting to hear from Ben Breedlove about a meeting with Mr. Luhn to learn more about his father’s role in the town and changes he made while owner of the property.
2. Pole Building: Bob reported he plans to meet with Brena to finalize a draft of the nomination and then meet with the County Commission to try and move the process forward.
3. Anderson farmhouse: Bob reported he had spoken with Dorothy Anderson who was willing to explore the possibility of placing the Anderson home on the Register. David volunteered to join Bob at a meeting with Dorothy.

Certificate of Appropriateness. Brena distributed a copy of the form used by Raleigh, N.C. to the members via e-mail for consideration. The possibility of combining whatever form and information we adopt with the current building permit application form was discussed. Bob will contact Bob Snyder to explore that idea. Aaron and David raised questions regarding the specifics the HPC will use to determine appropriateness. Bob suggested this was the type of issue that should be discussed by the entire Commission, and expressed hope that the full

membership might be present at the September meeting when a COA form and information might be finalized.

Meeting to Address HPC Issues. It has been difficult to discuss the mission and goals of the HPC in the absence of the entire membership at the past several meetings. Those present agreed on the importance of such a discussion, and Bob will poll the members to try and establish a date when all can attend.

NEW BUSINESS.

Main Street event: Bob reminded the members of the raffle sponsored by the Langley Main Street project on Saturday, August 27. He urged anyone who can participate in the contest to identify the historic photographs that will be displayed at a number of businesses to do so. David and Marty have agreed to help with the set up on Friday and recovery of the photos on Saturday.

Follow up to Tour of downtown Langley. Bob asked for feedback on the tour of downtown Langley with Ross Chapin conducted at the last meeting. Several members thanked Ross for his time, but expressed concern that perhaps more time might have been spent pointing out specific architectural features that contribute to the character of the area. David expressed concern that the HPC's efforts to participate in the process of defining and sustaining the character of downtown seem to have been thwarted by the Council's decision to direct the effort to the Design Review Board (DRB) and City Planning department. Bob pointed out that the DRB is the city entity with responsibility to formulate changes to the code. He also reported that he had met with planner Jeff Arango to discuss the role the HPC might play, and expressed the Commission's desire to work closely with the DRB in the process.

Meeting with City Council. After polling the members, it was decided that the HPC will meet with the City Council on December 19, 2011 to report on our work plan and accomplishments during 2011.

There being no further business, David moved to adjourn. Niki seconded the motion, and members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Waterman

The next scheduled meeting of LHPC will take place on Tuesday, September 13, 2011.