

## MINUTES - LANGLEY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

May 10, 2011

Langley City Hall

*Present:* Niki Barr, Linda Beeman Bob Waterman, Brena Gustafson.

*Absent:* David Rogan- Levine, Marty Fernandez, Aaron Coates.

Chair Bob Waterman called the meeting to order at 3:08pm.

Bob asked if there were corrections to the April 14, 2011 minutes. **There being none, Linda moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Brena seconded the motion and the minutes were adopted unanimously.**

### OLD BUSINESS.

**Plaques.** The need for a decision to finalize a plaque design was discussed. Brena volunteered to contact the Canon Beach, WA historic Society and obtain details for the metal signs used there.

### Historic Preservation Month Activities Update:

Bob reported that he will be giving a talk on the history of Langley's First Street, May 17 at 7:00pm, at the Music for the Eyes store, 314 First Street, Langley. It will be jointly sponsored by the HPC, Langley Main Street Program, and potentially the South Whidbey Historical Society.

Linda reported that articles regarding historic buildings in the South Whidbey Record each week during May are underway. Structures include: Roderick McLeod house (Music for the Eyes), Clyde Theatre, Langley Middle School, and the Jesse Tapp house.

Bob reported that the board of the SWHS agreed to grant the HPC \$100 from donations made at his December 8, 2010 "All Women Administration" talk. Niki moved and Brena seconded a motion to use this money to reimburse Linda for costs in preparation of the exhibits for the Library. Motion passed unanimously. Bob will ask the SWHS treasurer to send a check in that amount to the City earmarked for use by the HPC, and upon receipt, he will ask the City Clerk/Treasurer to make a check payable to Linda.

The members discussed Niki's plan to conduct a survey of what people would like to learn about the Langley's history. It was suggested that she hand out our brochure to interested individuals, and include a mix of general and specific questions regarding interest in history in the survey. It will be most important to focus on local residents.

Bob reported that Eric Levine and Janet Ploof of the Main Street Board had surveyed almost all the merchants on First and Second Streets regarding the possibility of placing

historic photos in their businesses during May. The response was nearly uniformly positive. Bob will be printing and mounting on foam core photos as fast as he can, although it may not be possible to provide images for all the merchants contacted.

Brena reported on her plan to develop a program on the 1970's in Langley. It will not be ready for this May, but she hopes to present it sometime during the year.

**History Walk/Electronic Media.** No report.

**Special Tax Valuation.** Linda volunteered to contact the Island County Assessor's office to confirm that the program is still in effect. If so, we will try to link information regarding the program to the city's web site.

**Conservation District Proposal.** Bob reported that he had presented the report of the city council's ad hoc committee to explore options for sustaining downtown Langley to the city council at its last meeting. The council agreed that the concept of sustaining the character of downtown is a good one, and referred the findings of the ad hoc committee to the city's planning department for review.

**Certificate of Appropriateness Form.** The concept of a Certificate of Appropriateness, and the necessity for having an application form, were discussed. The need to make the criteria for approving or disapproving a request for major alteration or demolition to a structure or site on the Langley Register of Historic Places as specific as possible to allow decisions to be as objective as possible was stressed. The need to have this document and accompanying information was noted since we currently have five sited on the register; any one of which might apply for a permit.

Brena will explore the form and related materials used by other cities and report back at the June 14, 2011 meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

**Potential Historic Site Nominees.** Niki and Brena are still working on the BreeLove house and Pole Building respectively.

**There being no further business, Brena made a motion that we adjourn the meeting. David seconded the motion, and members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:10pm.**

Respectfully submitted by Bob Waterman

*The next scheduled meeting of LHPC will take place on Tuesday, June 14, 2011.*

