

CITY OF LANGLEY

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES May 8, 2008

Chair Bob Waterman called the meeting to order at 9:34 am

Members present: Bob Waterman, Linda Beeman, Herb Helsel, Marty Fernandez, Fran Abel

Members absent: Harrison Goodall, Jerry Finrow

Staff/Guests present: Larry Cort, Director of Community Planning

Mary Jo McArdle, Minutes taker

Minutes: Beeman moved, seconded by Helsel, to approve the minutes of May 1, 2008 as written (corrected). Motion passed unanimously.

Continued Discussion on Obtaining Certified Local Government:

Waterman bulleted Board's top 'next step' items including: obtaining copy of ordinance, obtain several statements, Cort to write a letter for the Mayor to sign, Cort to identify his credentials, prepare proposal to go to City Council for review before submittal to the State.

Cort addressed Shoreline Management Plan along First Street and Marina stating that the only dimensional standards in the Langley Code are at Seawall Park. The City's Shoreline Master Program and the Zoning Code will determine what can be done within these areas. Cort responded to Board's question on how historic preservation can play a part in this plan by stating that while First Street has defined historic buildings; Wharf Street will be more challenging because it has gone through so many changes over the years. It was suggested use of historic building setbacks in relationship to the bluff to determine future First Street setbacks. Waterman suggested doing a survey of all of the buildings on First Street. Cort responded to the Board's concerns about hierarchy of regulations that could trump their efforts, stating yes, the State has a lot to say about what we can do. Department of Ecology (DOE) has the highest authority and ultimately the final say.

New Business

Next step tasks: Goodall and Cort build a set of local standards for acceptance in the Langley Historic Register, i.e. how much change to a building has taken place over the years.

Brainstorming additional ideas, tasks and goals included:

- ❖ Include public buildings i.e. Middle School, Fire Station, City Hall in preservation efforts
- ❖ Get kids involved
- ❖ Create a video 'Man on the Street' and show at the Clyde during the small film festival
- ❖ Save bits and pieces of buildings that inevitably get torn down or lost
- ❖ Explore global ramifications (rise in water levels) on existing historical buildings that are on the water – can they be moved?
- ❖ Photographs
- ❖ Economics of Preservation – included discussion about energy conservation and remodeling of historic buildings and how codes effect these buildings to restoring historic buildings vs. tear down and rebuilding

Waterman provided an update on his interview with the owner of the Heron Building, the Pizza Parlor, The National Trust Main Street Program for funding possibilities.

Updates on Biographies: Fernandez will do the "Living Green" building instead of the Heron Bldg; Abel volunteered to do a biography on the Second Street Fire Station

Waterman handed out copies of several City of Langley maps (1920's, 1948, and a Sanborn Map from the mid 20's).

Fernandez gave an overview of the State Historic preservation Plan 'Listening Session' held in Seattle last week.

Closing

Next meeting shall be May 22nd at 9:30 am. Possible walking tour of Langley's downtown (weather permitting).

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.