

## CITY OF LANGLEY

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES May 22, 2008

Final received from Larry 5-28-08

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

**Members present:** Bob Waterman, Linda Beeman, Herb Helsel, Fran Abel, Harrison Goodall

**Members absent:** Jerry Finrow, Marty Fernandez

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

Mary Jo McArdle, Minutes taker

**Minutes:** Linda Beeman moved, seconded by Fran Abel, to approve the minutes of May 8, 2008 as written. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Continued Discussion on Obtaining Certified Local Government – scope of work focusing on the top tier items:**

- A. Larry Cort asked the committee if they had decided to seek Certified Local Government status and if so they should prepare supporting documentation to the City Council including costs and staffing needs that are associated with certification.

The committee discussed work done thus far on identifying Langley's historical buildings and what documentation has been done on these. Two buildings were selected to include as examples in the City's application for CLG status, the Dog House and the Historical Museum both of which are already on the National Historic Registry. Bob Waterman said that it would also be nice to include the City Hall building in the application.

Linda Beeman moved the Historical Preservation Committee proceed with the application process for CLG status. Fran Abel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

In addition to the Committee's City Council presentation, the next task will be to develop procedures on how the committee will determine and develop criteria standards for registration and develop brochures and other educational information for citizens.

The committee will make their presentation to the June 4<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

- B. Larry Cort gave the committee an overview of the talk he attended, given by Don Rypkema and author of "Economics of Historic Preservation". Larry mentioned two points of the talk that stood out; 1) that historic preservation is a sustainable practice and 2) Rypkema raised challenges the green building movement.
- C. Harrison Goodall showed the board the Quick Point presentation he gave in Coupeville recently. He discussed the pride Coupeville has in their historic buildings; that there is a lot of history within the history of their town, and that one of the

purposes of this meeting was to refresh the Coupeville community, the value of their Historic Preservation. He discussed the importance of identifying what it is we are trying to preserve; what defines why a structure is worth preserving. Larry Cort added that it is not always about the buildings but is also about the framework (platting) and about historical place, providing the board with an example of this by showing Coupeville's downtown street layout and the differences in the platting on either side of Main Street. On the Thomas Coupe side of Main Street, the land was platted in very structured 200 x 200 ft blocks while the other side and owned by another person was platted very differently.

Harrison Goodall identified additional elements that define a town besides buildings, which should be considered in developing a set of criteria including:

- Character Defining Features (platting framework)
- Integrity
- Landscape
- Views
- Historical Character
- Visual Character

- D. Board members gave updates on their biographies. Fran Abel provided a copy of the research she'd done on the Langley Fire House. Developing a format for the biographies was part of this discussion.

## Summary

Bob Waterman summarized points of the meeting.

- Bob Waterman will get two biography examples to Larry Cort
- The Board will continue to work on their biographies
- The Board will work on the format for biographies
- The Board will begin to formulate strategy for developing the criteria (Larry Cort added that there is some information in the Historic Preservation Ordinance and that it is a subset (specific) of this information the Board should develop.)
- Harrison will take the initial step of drafting criteria for Langley

At the next meeting the Board can hopefully do a walk about with Jerry Finrow.

## Closing

Next meeting shall be May 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. Walking tour of Langley's downtown (weather permitting).

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 am.