

CITY OF LANGLEY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
July 24, 2008

Draft to Bob Waterman 7-25-08

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

Members present: Bob Waterman, Fran Abel, Jerry Finrow, Marty Fernandez
Members absent: Herb Helsel, Harrison Goodall, Linda Beeman
Staff/Guests: Mary Jo McArdle, Minutes taker

Jerry Finrow moved to approve the minutes from the 7/17/2008 meeting. Fran Abel seconded. Bob stated Linda Beeman noted that the name of the cemetery is "Woodmen". The minutes as amended passed unanimously.

Continued discussion of our scope of work focusing on the Top Tier items:

The description of the phone outside of City Hall was changed to read a "wall hung" pay phone instead of phone booth on the City Hall nomination.

Once Certified Local Government status is obtained, Bob Waterman would like to get Megan Duvall back to talk to the Commission.

Bob Waterman gave the Commission a brief history of the Mason's Society who built and owned Langley's City Hall building. The members thought that some of this information would be good to include in the in the City Hall nomination process.

Bob Waterman also passed out some additional information he obtained from Michael Boyd on the City Hall building remodel.

Bob Waterman walked around the cemetery and shared some additional pictures he took with the Commission.

Fran Abel asked if the trees on the cemetery site are protected as part of the site or is it just the graves. Jerry Finrow answered 'Yes, they are protected, however living things fall under a different set of criteria than non-living things. Bob Waterman added that typically the National Registry does not put cemeteries on the registry. However, local certified government's could put cemeteries on their registry.

Debbie Mahler, Langley's City Clerk, stepped into the meeting briefly and shared what she knows about the cemetery.

Bob Waterman added one more item that needs to be included in the Commission's nomination presentation to the City Council; that is to let them know what they are getting into. Bob has prepared a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page for them and a step-by-step guide for completing the nomination form. Mary Fernandez will look at these and prepare a draft for the City Council meeting.

New Business

The Commission discussed a new meeting schedule. An evening meeting time was discussed to allow the community more opportunity to be involved. Evening meetings are difficult for Jerry Finrow and added the earlier the time the better it would be for him. One meeting a month should be sufficient. The Commission will consider the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm. The Commission decided to meet on August 7th following their City Council presentation requesting the City to nominate the City Hall building and the Woodmen Cemetery site for registry in Langley's Historical Preservation Registry. Larry Cort needs to be invited to this meeting.

In preparation for the City Council presentation, the Commission should be prepared to justify that the changes made to the building still qualifies it to be placed on the Register.

A meeting with Larry Cort should be scheduled for August before Bob Waterman leaves on August 25th.

An informational Public Meeting needs to be scheduled. It was decided to schedule this meeting for a date after Bob Waterman returns On October 25rd.

Because the process for applying is cumbersome for most folks, Jerry suggested developing strategies for getting folks interested in registering their building(s). The Commission had previously discussed this concern and recognizes that they will be an integral part of the process in assisting potential registrants complete the necessary nomination form.

Conclusion

The need to engage the community and develop interest in historical preservation is the Commissions next big step. The Commission discussed several ideas to accomplish this. Both large and small ideas were shared including:

- A presentation to the community at the Clyde Theatre or smaller vignettes at the regular HPC meetings.
- Informational brochures/postcards that can be put in coffee shops and stores.
- Participate in one of the regular Art/Gallery Walks the City businesses host.
- Make and sell or get local restaurants to use laminated placemats of Historical photos of Langley.
- Sponsor a history walk through Langley (possible buildings to include in the walk – Wylie Birthing house, Maine Stay, Dog House, Ben Breedlove house, Martha Murphy house, Historical museum, Voelker house, Todd Soli house).
- Create a virtual walking tour for those who cannot actually participate in the walk.
- Presentations at community events (weekly soup kitchen at the CMA).
- Write a weekly or bi-weekly article in the Record.
- Tap into Sue Frause's blog.

How does the Commission approach the folks who own some of these buildings and create interest? Jerry Finrow suggested assigning Commission members 2 property owners each to contact:

- Marty Fernandez – Voelker house, Main Stay, Langley Building Supply
- Linda Beeman – Voelker house, Museum
- Fran Abel – Firehouse, Todd Soli (Grant) house
- Jerry Finrow – Breedlove house

- Bob Waterman – Museum, Martha Murphy house

An important agenda item for the next meeting will be to review the request process for Certified Local Government funding. Requests have to be submitted by October of this year to be available for 2009.

Adjourn:

Fran Abel moved the meeting adjourn. Marty Fernandez and Jerry Finrow seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:18 am

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 7, 2008 at 9:30 am.