

City of Colville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

January 21, 2010

10:00 a.m. – City Hall

MINUTES

The Colville Historic Preservation Commission met for a regular meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2010, at City Hall. Acting Chairperson Alan Bedford called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

The Commission welcomed Trudy Lundy as its newest member.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Larsen, Alan Bedford, and Trudy Lundy. Janet Thomas arrived after roll call. MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracy Ferrell and Craig Figley. One vacancy exists. STAFF PRESENT: Assistant Planner Melinda Lee. OTHERS PRESENT: Councilmember Pearl Mance. RECORDING SECRETARY: Susan Davis.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of December 17, 2009 had been distributed to each member prior to the meeting. Russ Larsen moved and Trudy Lundy seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

NOMINATION & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Alan Bedford nominated Russ Larsen as Chairman and Janet Thomas as Vice-Chair. Nominations were closed and Russ Larsen was elected as Chairman and Janet Thomas as Vice-Chair by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Elk's Lodge - Review Historic Plaque Application.

A Historic Plaque Application by the Elks Lodge had been distributed to each member prior to the meeting (copy on file). The request is for a historic plaque to commemorate the old clay pit for the Rusch Brickyard, which is near the current 9th tee at the golf course. Melinda Lee advised that the Dominion Meadows Athletic Association submitted a letter of support, with conditions, for the location of a historic plaque (copy on file).

Discussion followed concerning “site” review criteria. Melinda noted that the Commission adopted site review criteria at a previous meeting. She identified the criteria as follows:

- 1) Needs to be significant to the history of Colville – a special event or birthplace or grave of a person of historical significance;
- 2) Was it the start of a growth pattern in the community;
- 3) Was there some type of significant change that occurred in the community from that point on;
- 4) Needs to be able to interpret site in meaningful way using visual reconstruction;
- 5) Needs to be accessible to the public.

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For sites that don't have remnants of a previous use, the Commission felt it was important to request the applicant to visually interpret the site by providing some type of illustration or photo of what it used to look like.

Janet Thomas moved to approve the application pending agreement on the interpretation (depiction) of the site and placement of the plaque. Alan Bedford seconded. Voice vote showed all in favor.

B. Continued discussion - 459 N. Maple Street

Melinda Lee explained that she has been monitoring the condition of the property at 459 N. Maple Street and had determined it was a public nuisance. She wrote the property owner a letter requesting abatement. As part of that process, she pointed out to the property owner that his historic plaque could be taken away if he didn't comply. The property owner responded to the letter and has done much to clean up the site. The Commission felt that the property looks satisfactory and requested that a thank you letter be sent.

C. Draft: Design Review Process Decision Tree.

A proposed draft outlining a Design Review Process Decision Tree had been distributed to each member prior to the meeting (copy on file). It was determined that the decision tree has never been formally adopted pending adoption of the downtown historic district. Janet pointed out that the decision tree limits the Commission review to properties listed in the Comprehensive Plan, to plaque recipients, or property in a district or on a register. Other properties of historic interest would not be included in the design review process unless the Commission established many districts or created large districts. Additional time was requested to review the decision tree. There were no objections and this item was continued to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business to be presented.

REPORTS:

Melinda Lee advised that the Historic Preservation Committee will now be referred to as the Historic Preservation Commission, as established by ordinance. She noted even though the City is not pursuing Certified Local Government (CLG) status at this time, the ordinance is still in effect. Janet Thomas explained that CLG status cannot be obtained unless the Commission's bylaws are adopted by ordinance, which the Commission does not desire to do at this time.

Janet inquired if anything has been done regarding Rendezvous Days. Melinda indicated that staff members have attended a couple of meetings. Commission members shared some thoughts about grouping historic-type booths such as HPC, a reenactment group, the genealogical society, etc. It was pointed out the HPC storyboards need to be updated and consideration should be given to purchasing a banner. The Commission members asked to be kept up to date on this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Alan Bedford moved and Janet Thomas seconded the motion to adjourn. There were no objections and the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:50 a.m.