

Historical Buildings and Sites Commission
MEETING MINUTES
May 19, 2022
5:15 pm Council Chambers

COMMISSIONERS:

Ward Warren (Chair)
Arden McConnell (Vice Chair)
Virginia Ford
Shirley Holzinger
Nathan Miller
Sandra Crowder
Cynthia Charat (absent)

STAFF/LIAISON MEMBERS:

Bradley Clark – Director Community Development
Jason Maki – Associate Planner

COUNCIL LIAISON:

Joel King

GUESTS:

Jenna Wiltout
Jason Canady – Public Works Director

***Due to a technical issue, the meeting was not recorded*

1. **Roll Call** – Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 5:17 pm.
2. **Introductions:** None.
3. **Public Comment:** Public History Project Discussion, Jenna Wiltout

Jenna “My project would ideally consist of three components: the first being research, the second creating a webpage to display my findings, and the third creating an interaction between the community and their history. The home page of the website would give a general overview of the town and surrounding area. Easily accessible links would then lead users to other pages consisting of micro histories and topical histories. Ideas include Indigenous history, the town’s logging history, and pioneer history. The interactive component of the project mainly derives from the town’s strong downtown presence. QR codes would be placed downtown and in relevant locations elsewhere. Scanning the QR codes would then take visitors and locals to the correlating page of the website. Grants Pass residents would then have the opportunity to contribute to a living history of the town either online, or by writing their personal story of how they came to Grants Pass and dropping it off at a centrally located drop box.”

The commission showed interest in the concept project Jenna described and requested that she provide a written proposal for review, Jenna agreed.

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

- a. April 14, 2022:

MOTION

Chair Warren moved, and Commissioner Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the March 10, 2022 minutes as amended. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell, Commissioners Ford, Miller, Holzinger, Charat and Crowder. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. The motion passed.

5. **Action Items:**

- a. Findings of Fact 303-00116-22; Local Historical Landmark Designation at 121 NE B Street

Chair Warren moved, and Vice Chair McConnell seconded the motion to approve the Findings of Fact for project 303-00116-22. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell, Commissioners Ford, Miller, Holzinger, Charat and Crowder.

“NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

The motion passed.

- b. Findings of Fact 303-00117-22; Local Historical Landmark Designation at 116 SE H Street

Chair Warren moved, and Vice Chair McConnell seconded the motion to approve the Findings of Fact for project 303-00117-22. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell, Commissioners Ford, Miller, Holzinger, Charat and Crowder.

“NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

The motion passed.

- c. Findings of Fact for 303-00118-22; Local Historical Landmark Designation at 961 SE 8th Street

Chair Warren moved, and Vice Chair McConnell seconded the motion to approve the Findings of Fact for project 303-00118-22. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell, Commissioners Ford, Miller, Holzinger, Charat and Crowder.

“NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

The motion passed.

- d. Discussion and potential action: Possible Reconfiguration of G Street

- The Commission discussed recent information presented at the Central Business District Revitalization task force meetings. The discussion mainly focused on the impacts of a proposed reconfiguration of G street could have on the Historic District. Concerns such as pedestrian/vehicle safety, parking, economic development, sidewalk dining, urban renewal, and other issues were discussed.
- Commissioner Miller requested staff provide some materials to help provide a resource for form a future recommendation.
- The Commission were in consensus that they would not be making a formal motion on the topic at this time.

6. Matters from Commission Members and Staff:

- a. Welcome Center Exterior Changes

- Jason Canady presented elevations of the proposed façade improvements to the Downtown Welcome Center which included two roll-up glass doors.
- Generally, the commission had concerns that the roll up doors did not fit the aesthetic of the building and that the doors to closely resembled “garage doors”
- Jason Canady let the Commissions know that he would take the Commissions comments back to the Council.

- b. Redwood Empire Sign Update

- Public Works Director, Jason Canady, informed the group that the Redwood Empire sign had been installed however there were some neon lights that were not working and that the sign company was going to be fixing them.
- c. Historic District Map Update
 - Staff member Jason Maki presented an estimate for printing Historic District Maps, the commission agreed printing 2,500 copies would be appropriate.

8. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting:

- a. The Commission requested that the guest, Jenna Wilttrout, provide a written project proposal for review
- b. Update on Central Business District Revitalization Task Force progress
- c. Public Hearing for 303-00119-21; Local Historical Landmark Designation at 1230 Rogue River Highway

8. Adjourn: before 7:00 pm

Next Meeting: June 16, 2022

Summary minutes prepared by Jason Maki, Associate Planner, Grants Pass Community Development.