

Historic Preservation Review Board – June 27, 2007 @ 7:00 PM

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was called to order by Chair, Mary Jane Anderson, at 7:15 PM at Town Hall.

Chair Anderson called the roll.

Members present: Mary Jane Anderson, Chair; Gary Franklin; Michael Jean Carpentier and David Waldron

Also Present: Sandy Strehlou, HPRB Coordinator,

Minutes

Minutes for HPRB June 13, 2007 were approved

Approving of the HPRB June 1st Forum minutes was postponed until a quorum of those Board members who attended the Forum is present at an HPRB meeting.

Inventory, Register and CLG

To further clarify the differences between the existing Inventory and the proposed TFH Registry of Historic sites, HPRB Coordinator Sandy Strehlou provided the board with information regarding the Friday Harbor Register of Historic Places and a chart illustrating the differences. The inventory is an informal, ongoing process of collecting information about historic sites, while the registry is a formal process of documentation and assessment. Formal registries are standard tools used by historic preservation organizations at the local, state and federal levels. It is a process that is required by the State for CLG (Certified Local Government) designation—and ultimately for access to a variety of preservation incentives, including but not limited to Special Property Tax Valuation.

Previously the board intended to take the HPRB Inventory of Historic Places before the TFH Council however as Chair Anderson related, former HP Coordinator Nancy Larsen advised, there is less to be gained by formal adoption of the Inventory, as compared to formal adoption of a more comprehensive and well-documented registry. Larsen also pointed out that the Town's current historic preservation ordinance has already recognized the future implementation of the registry.

The Board briefly discussed different strategies for designating targeted properties for the Registry, once it has been adopted by the Council. Several sites (the Courthouse, the San Juan Bank building and Memorial Park) already have completed registry application documentation, from services previously contracted by the Town. These sites could be easily and quickly named to the Register, once it is established. What needs further discussion is what role the HPRB would play in assisting local property owners in the registry application process.

The board unanimously agreed to pursue the implementation of a Registry. Therefore it was approved that Coordinator Strehlou will confer with state-level preservation organizations, and Town Attorney, Don Eaton, regarding the necessary changes to the wording of the historic preservation language in the relevant section of the Town's Municipal Code.

The San Juan County Fair

After discussing several theme ideas, the Board agreed that the 2007 exhibit would highlight three historic properties, accompanied by a narrative, to demonstrate the criteria used to determine historic significance.

Houses selected were the Fritz House (2nd @ Reed streets), the Halverson/Boe House (lower Argyle), and the Mullis House (Caines @ Argyle). Board member David Waldron will get photographs for the three sites from the Historical Museum. Board member Michael Jean Carpentier take responsibility for gathering content and photographs for the Halverson House. (She will work with Sandy and Megan Boe to do this.) Recording Secretary Peggy Sue McRae will gather photographs and content for the Mullis House. Chair Anderson will gather information about the Frits House by contacting the Historical Museum and Richard Walker of the Journal newspaper to ask permission of use material from the Journal exhibit that occurred a year or so ago at the Museum.

Waldron indicated he would volunteer to be one of the members setting up the exhibit booth. Strehlou will also help. One other volunteer is needed.

As an interactive feature the booth will also feature a computer with the CD Revisiting Washington. Board member Gary Franklin will handle the planning and coordination. Sandy will contact Steve Dubail for help with security and operations.

The entire board is encouraged to sign up for booth staffing slots as soon as possible, and to find other volunteers. The Board agreed to contact Strehlou regarding their scheduling preferences no later than Friday, July 6th.

Having run out of meeting time, the Board concluded the meeting by scheduling the discussion on CLG designation for the July 11th meeting.

Mary Jane Anderson, Chair

Peggy Sue McRae
9:05: Meeting adjourned