

## **Historic Preservation Review Board – March 26, 2008 @ 7:00 PM**

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was called to order by Chair, Mary Jane Anderson, at 7:04 PM at Town Hall.

Chair Anderson called the roll.

Members present: Mary Jane Anderson, Chair; Kevin Peterson (7:15), David Waldron and Michael Jean Carpentier

Also Present: Sandy Strehlou, HPRB Coordinator and local historian and preservation architect, Boyd Pratt.

Approval of the minutes was postponed in order to hear Pratt's proposal before review and approval of the minutes.

### Boyd Pratt: Friday Harbor's Historic Waterfront Project

Architectural Historian Boyd Pratt addressed the board with a proposal to work together with Nancy Larsen and the HPRB to create a written and visual history of Friday Harbor's waterfront. The focus would be on the working waterfront as essential to the town's economy. The University of Washington Labs and Jensen's Shipyards would figure on the periphery of the town and be mentioned, but would not be the focus.

The proposed documentation method would be to create a series of interpretive maps recording important dates in the waterfront's history along with related historical information. This material could be put on the Internet through the Historic Friday Harbor website, or used with temporary and permanent installations and exhibits. Some of the important events include:

- 1873 – Founding of the Town
- 1890 – Founding of San Juan County Bank – The Cannery – Churchill House
- 1909 – Establishment of Town, Courthouse, Masonry bank building
- 1920s – Automobiles
- 1940 – 1950 – Sale of Ferry Lane from private to public

HPRB Coordinator Sandy Strehlou, supported the proposal saying that it would be a good tool to educate the public, and be an asset to those who do not own boats and have few opportunities to see the town, or historic waterfront structures from the water. Further, this information would help inform and guide the Board with regard to waterfront design reviews and prioritization of heritage resources and sites along the water. Lastly Strehlou suggested that the project could culminate with a Centennial public lecture during National Historic Preservation Month in May 2009.

Strehlou proposed to fund the project by inviting other waterfront-based organizations to collaborate as part of their Centennial contribution, including but not limited to the Port and Washington State Ferries. Mr. Pratt proposed a time frame for the project as deliverable by the end of the year to launch May 2009. Other suggestions included a morphing a photo/map on the web, and an exhibit at the base of Memorial Park. Chair Anderson suggested it would be a fantastic exhibit for the opening of the new Port building.

The HPRB unanimously agreed to support the proposal. Board member David Waldron volunteered to speak to the Town Council about the project at the next Council meeting on April 3rd.

At 7:50 the board thanked Mr. Pratt and he departed.

### Minutes

The HPRB minutes 2/27/08 were approved with spelling corrections.

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### The Board Retreat

A discussion of the board retreat prompted board member Kevin Peterson to diagram the tension between our guidelines and State HP standards when considered alongside the tensions between small historic structures and big new projects. He asked, "Can we be tighter with bigger projects?" Chair Anderson pointed out that the School was a large project that did a beautiful job. Coordinator Strehlou suggested that areas of particular difficulty in design review are the transitional neighborhoods. She pointed out that part of the challenge with the Churchill corner project was due to it being in a transitional neighborhood; lower Argyle is another area where the guidelines do not provide appropriate direction. Strehlou also noted that there is a great deal of pressure to get permits out quickly at the expense of having enough time to work effectively with individual applicants.

### Updates

**Roy's Drive-Through/25 Nichols Street:** The trellis project as Roy's Drive Through has withdrawn by the applicant until further notice.

**460-462 Caines Steet:** The owners of this property (Eureka Group) were fined \$1065.00 for putting on a new roof without a permit.

## The Manual

Citing the scope of work that will be required to thoroughly review and update the Town's Historic Preservation Manual, Coordinator Strehlou presented a plan to break the task down into five parts. She provided the board with an outline of suggestions that include hiring a consultant to do the final writing and editing. The Board approved using the suggested process and timeline, with the ability to adjust the process later, if it needs fine-tuning. They also agreed to proceed with the following steps in preparation for the next meeting:

May 27-April 4<sup>th</sup>: Each board member will review the first section of the manual (front cover and intro-through page 36) to identify and create a list of things they feel need to be addressed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> addition. (This should take place prior to receipt of the board packets for the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.) In the board packets, staff will independently forward a list of issues for the first section from notes taken over the past four years. Next, each member will compare their list against the staff list to come up with their recommendations for the first phase of the update process. The board recommendations will be discussed at the next meeting.

## National Historic Preservation Month/Partners in Preservation Awards 2008

This year, Historic Preservation month will be celebrated by a number of activities: Boyd Pratt will give a lecture on Friday Harbor Vernacular Architecture and Coordinator Strehlou will coordinate a month-long program of free guided walking tours of Friday Harbor on Saturday mornings. Still undecided is whether the board can agree on a deserving candidate for the Partners in Preservation award.

## Board Member Recruitment

The search for a board member to fill the board position vacated by the resignation of Gary Franklin continues. The Board is strongly encouraged to search out and recommend suitable candidates. Prospective candidates should be guided to the HPRB description of duties and responsibilities on the Town's website: [www.fridayharbor.org/historic%20preservation/board\\_responsibilities.htm](http://www.fridayharbor.org/historic%20preservation/board_responsibilities.htm). Interested candidates are required to submit a cover letter and resume.

## HPRB Inventory

Strehlou pointed out the Inventory needs to be updated therefore after historic sites are reviewed she will be bringing the current inventory of the site to the next meeting for an update.

## Distinctive Destination

Friday Harbor's status as a distinctive destination was reported in the *Seattle Times* boosting by 1,000 hits the Historic Friday Harbor Website.

Mary Jane Anderson, Chair

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Peggy Sue McRae  
9:00 Meeting adjourned