

Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 7:00 PM

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was called to order by Chair Mary Jane Anderson at 7:03 PM at Town Hall.

Mary Jane Anderson called the roll.

Members present: Mary Jane Anderson, Chair; Michael Jean Smith, Kevin Peterson, and David Waldron.

Members absent: Matt Shildneck

Also present: Sharon Kivisto representing the Centennial Time Capsul Project. Sandy Strehlou, HPRB Coordinator; Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary.

Partners in Preservation Award Ceremony

Prior to the regularly scheduled HPRB meeting Friday Harbor Mayor David Jones, former HPRB member Nancy Jones, HPRB Coordinator Sandy Strehlou, Mary Jane Anderson, Michael Jean Smith, Kevin Peterson, David Waldron and Peggy Sue McRae met with representatives and congregation of Friday Harbor's Jehovah Witnesses at the Kingdom Hall building on Argyle. Board member David Waldron spoke commending the Kingdom Hall project. Waldron introduced Mayor Jones who presented the award. Representatives of the local congregation as well as the state volunteer coordinators spoke about the process involved in accomplishing their project. After the ceremony the HPRB board and staff convened at Town Hall.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of April 22, 2009 were approved.

Time Capsule

Sharon Kivisto addressed the board on behalf of the Time Capsule Committee with a proposal to bury a time capsule in Memorial Park. The intention is to bury a time capsule containing memorabilia that will then be opened fifty years from now on Friday Harbor's 150th birthday. The capsule will be a steel cylinder. The capsule will be buried on August 20th, the week following the County Fair.

The board approved of the idea and discussed incorporating the time capsule into the park along with an interpretive feature informing the public about

Memorial Park. Board member David Waldron will design the feature. He will proposed designs to show the Board by the June 24 HPRB meeting.

Ms. Kivisto will be requesting funding from Charlie Anderson for the cylinder. Strehlou will contact the Memorial Park Steering Committee and the American Legion Hall. She will also speak to the town regarding funding.

It was suggested the board observe the interpretive features at Roche Harbor. Strehlou will send content regarding Memorial Park to the board to determine what the board feels is most important to have for wording on the interpretive feature. The board is asked to consider a long-range view of coordinating this feature with potential interpretive features that the Port of Friday Harbor is considering, as well as the Town's future historic landmark plaques.

Feedback on Preservation Month Programs

The talks given by Boyd Pratt were appreciated. Walking tours had low participation, due in part to insufficient coverage by the local media.

Reports on Special Tax Valuation

Board member Michael Jean Smith gave her report on Special Tax Valuation as used for an incentive in the city of Anacortes. She interviewed Steve Oakley by telephone 5.27.09.

Michael Jean Smith's report

1. Is your jurisdiction still offering the Special Tax Valuation incentive to encourage historic preservation? **Yes. The program was established in 2004. No one is taking advantage of it now.**
2. If so, on average, how many properties are proposed for the incentive each year? **One since 2004, the Wilson Building.**
3. How many properties have been awarded the incentive since it became available? **One.**
4. Does your program limit the number of new participants each year? **No.**
5. Who monitors the recipient properties for on-going compliance? **The Town Historic Preservation Board, for ten years.**
6. How is the relationship between the jurisdiction and the Assessor of you county? Were there problems in starting up or maintaining the program? **Fine. We had to help the city council to understand the program.**
7. What has been the impact on staff since implementing this incentive program? Was implementing the incentive cost-neutral for the preservation program budget? Or was more funding/staff found to be necessary? **Minimal impact so far.**

8. Has the jurisdiction had to penalize recipients since the program started? What were the penalties and any other ramifications experienced? (ie. legal challenges, etc.) **No.**
9. What if any "class of properties" are eligible for the incentive in your town/city? **No restrictions.**
10. In your opinion, has the incentive been effective in preserving historic structures/sites in your community? **Yes.**

Coordinator Strehlou added three more questions.

1. What would they have done differently?
2. How would they promote the incentive?
3. How has being a CLG benefited you?

Kevin Peterson will report on Wenatchee, Ellensburg and Goldendale. Mary Jane Anderson will report on Walla Walla and Port Townsend. Sandy Strehlou will report on Dayton. Matt Shildneck may report on Roslyn, Centralia and/or Chehalis.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM

Mary Jane Anderson, Chair

Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary