

## **Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting Wednesday, September 9, 2009, 7:00 PM**

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was called to order by Chair, Mary Jane Anderson at 7:00 PM at Town Hall.

Chair, Mary Jane Anderson called the roll.

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

Also present: Sandy Strehlou, HPRB Coordinator; Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary

### **This Place Matters**

Board members, board secretary and HPRB Coordinator Sandy Strehlou met at Memorial Park at 6:45 PM where Strehlou photographed us holding a banner that read, "This Place Matters". Similar photographs have been taken at Town Hall, Saint Francis Church and Coldwell Banker to raise awareness regarding the importance of our historic buildings.

### **Amending the Agenda**

The board agreed to add discussion of the *Revised Administrative Review Policy* and *Revised Perception of Fairness* to the September 9, 2009 agenda.

### **Expanding the Historic District**

The board responded to a query from Town Councilperson Carrie Lacher as to the possibility of expanding the historic district. After a general discussion regarding the challenges that expansion of the historic district presents it was decided that chair Anderson would call councilperson Lacher and invite her to a HPRB meeting.

### **Time Capsule/Memorial Park**

Board member David Waldron informed the board that the current design for installing the interpretive feature plus the time capsule in Memorial Park would be approximately \$8,000.00. The board discussed less expensive ways to bury the time capsule including putting it in a hole under the bricks in memorial park or burying it outside of Town Hall.

### **Heritage Rock Wall on Warbass Way**

Coordinator Strehlou provided the board with photocopies of a heritage rock wall built around 1900 near Capron's Landing. Property owners near the wall have expressed concerns about the stability of the wall, bringing it to Town Administrator C. King Fitch's attention. The board

commended Mr. Fitch for consulting the Board on the matter. The board agreed that the wall is significant, and that it should participate in discussions and decisions that may occur in the future. It was also suggested that a stone wall expert on Lopez Island, or other such person, should be consulted before any decisions are made concerning repair or demolition.

### **Endangered Buildings List**

As part of the board packets mailed to each member prior to the meeting, coordinator Strehlou provided the board with photocopies and ratings for historic Friday Harbor buildings considered at-risk. Upon discussion by the board, it was suggested that several buildings be removed from the packet/list (Spring Street School, Dr. Wright's House, and Car Quest.)

At 7:45 PM Coordinator Strehlou went home ill.

The board discussed applying incentives to the DeStaffany House, an endangered historic building in the Downtown Core of the Commercial Zone. Special Tax Valuation was discussed as a likely incentive. It was decided that this exercise would benefit by having lot site plan. Board member David Waldron offered to bring a site plan showing the footprint for the property to the next meeting.

### **Revised Policies**

The board reviewed new language provided by Coordinator Strehlou in the documents: *Revised Administrative Review Policy* and *Revised Perception of Fairness (Projects Involving Board Members or Staff)*.

#### *Revised Administrative Review Policy*

The board agreed to strike the last paragraph of the revised 09.02.09 version of the proposed Administrative Review Policy stating that it is the responsibility of the Town to enforce Town codes. Chair Anderson reminded the board of a previous decision to create a pamphlet to inform and encourage the public to contact the board before they begin their projects.

#### *Revised Perception of Fairness (Projects Involving Board Members or Staff)*

The board agreed to integrate the last two paragraphs eliminating the words, "*Interest is defined as*"

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31

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Mary Jane Anderson, Chair

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Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary