

Minutes of Meeting
Kootenai County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
January 18, 2023

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Courtney Beebe at 3:30 pm.

1. Opening Protocols:

Commissioner Brown gave opening protocols.

2. Roll Call:

Present were Commissioners Courtney Beebe, Russ Brown, Don Walters, Jon Mueller, Walter Burns. Laurie Mauser attended via Zoom. Guests present were Liz Palfini, County Commissioner Mattre and Cody Christian.

B. Approval of Minutes (Action Items)

Chairperson Beebe presented the minutes from the November 16, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Burns moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairperson Beebe called for a vote to approve. All approved.

C. Business (Action Items)

Agenda Item # 1 Guest Liz Palfini, Farragut State Park Manager, Farragut Historic Resources and Pen d'Oreille City.

Chairperson Beebe introduced Liz Palfini, invited by the HPC, who told of her experience with historic places previous to taking the manager position at Farragut. Commissioner Mauser explained that we were interested in coordinating efforts in the preservation of historic features, especially Pen d'Oreille City and discuss the NRHP designation and what to do with that in the future. Ms. Palfini offered insight to share that the Park is a complicated space where no thought for the historic features site when developed. The use of the Buttonhook Bay campground area has recently been changed from group camp to day-use which has changed the number of park visitors to that area. In information presentations, the history of the park is presented without promoting the location of Pen d'Oreille City. The park manages the site to keep it safe and the story is told in the safest way possible. There has been no interpretive revamping for the entire park for a long time but Pen d'Oreille City is on the long list of stories of the park. Investment has been made in putting the story in the museum and in the revamping of the history story in the visitors center. Commissioner Beebe explained we want to be sure the HPC fulfills our duty as the instigator in the National Register designation and reviewed our capabilities to support the site and Farragut as an important historic site. Commissioner Mueller emphasized that this and further discussion is about possibilities. Commissioner Brown stated he would hate to see history take a back seat to 500,000 visitors a year. Ms. Palfini explained problems with signs/plaques like "social/creative" trails in addition to official trails and potential damage to a historic site. Commissioner Burns commented on our interest in the park as a National

Register property followed by Ms. Palfini stating that there is no threat to the history of the park and National Register designation not needed to tell the story, that increased attention and national recognition is not needed along with federal controls. Commissioner Mauser pointed out that there were no restrictions with the NR designation, it's just an honorarium. Commissioner Beebe summed up that the hope is that this is our first conversation and urged Ms. Palfini to think of the HPC and our investment in Pen d'Oreille City to which Ms. Palfini emphasized their interest in the park story.

Agenda Item # 2 Vacant Position

Chairperson Beebe introduced Cody Christian as an applicant for the vacant commissioner position. She summarized HPC tasks. He was asked to share information about himself. Commissioners introduced themselves to him with details about HPC activities and their various expertise.

Agenda Item # 4 Commissioner Update Reports

Feely Farm Research (Mauser): Commissioner Mauser submitted the site inventory, photos and historic findings to Chairperson Beebe so that she would have the information in preparation of the oral interview of Don Jacklin. The next step is the oral interview to obtain pertinent historic information to complete the site inventory. The ISHI form and attachments are in draft form at this point.

Grant Status and RFP for Historic Preservation Plan (Beebe): Commissioner Beebe reported that the grant has not been funded yet but it should be shortly. The RFP is ready to send out at that time.

Cougar Gulch Historical Context (Beebe): Commissioner Beebe reported that a conference call with the new CLG coordinator Maria Rachel and Jason Tippeconic Fox, NRHP coordinator with ISHPO was held with our contractor Sharon Boswell, Commissioner Mauser and herself on January 12, 2023 to discuss the Cougar Gulch Historical Context submittal. Jason stated that they are happy with the document and require no further edits. They also decided that a case can not be made for a historic district because it is discontinuous. However, another option is to prepare a Multiple Property District (MPD) and nominate at least two properties within the district for the NRHP with others to follow as able. The obvious properties would be the Johnson and White farms. She will be talking to Sharon Boswell next week for a cost estimate.

BOR Memorandum of Agreement MOA) (Mueller): Chairman Beebe deferred to Commissioner Mueller saying she doesn't understand the MOA. Commissioner Mueller said he will review and explain it at the next meeting.

Robert Singletary Honor: Chairperson Beebe reported that she has been in conversation with the Downtown Association and the North Idaho Museum and Connie Singletary about honoring Robert at the Ft. Sherman Chapel grounds. The Singletarys are deciding on whether they would prefer a public or private event or honorary.

Lochaven Farms (Mauser): Commissioner Mauser stated she had not worked at all on a survey of the farm. Discussion about the property determined that the property is in the county but Hayden area of impact. (Addendum/correction to the minutes: Commissioner Mauser recorded the farm last summer so there is an ISHI site form

with attachments and context which can be submitted to ISHPO to be entered into the state inventory. This was sent out to all HPC commissioners. However, more information and access to the property is needed; photos are all from the road.)

Chapin Building/Post Falls Museum NRHP (Beebe): Chairperson Beebe announced that the Post Falls Museum staff are completing the NRHP nomination documents and obtaining a grant from the Idaho Humanities Council. Two architects are assisting. We are sponsoring the Chapin Building centennial and will help with the nomination. At the February and March meetings we will decide how we will help the Post Falls Museum with the centennial celebration.

CLG Grant Application (Beebe): There has been no announcement on whether we received the \$1500 grant to prepare and publish an informational brochure/handbook on Kootenai County historic preservation organizations.

D. Public Comment

There was no public comment. County Commissioner Mattare pointed out that we had missed Agenda Item #3 which was then discussed.

Agenda Item # 3 Spending Plan Approval.

Chairperson Beebe presented a proposal for purchase of items that were budgeted for this fiscal year. Our budget is approximately \$8700. Items proposed for purchase are for survey and oral history tools as well as library items for reference for county organizations or individuals in historic preservation projects. After a short discussion where it was clarified where the items (camera, IPAD, recorder, etc.) will be kept, in the BOC office. A motion to approve the purchases was made by Commissioner Mueller. Chairperson Beebe added that Jody Bieze and Kim Riley will make the purchases through requisitions and have three bids. Motion to approve the purchases was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Chairperson Beebe called for a vote. All approved.

C. Adjourn

There being no further discussion of agenda items or public comment, Commissioner Mueller moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion was carried. Chairperson Beebe adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

Laurie Mauser, Recording Secretary