

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
RETREAT MINUTES**

January 8, 2025

City Hall – Conference Room #6

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Walter Burns, Chair
Anneliese Miller, Vice Chair
Stephen Shepperd
Rick Shaffer
Shannon Sardell
Sandy Emerson
Anne Anderson, Secretary
Doug Harro
Dan McCracken

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hilary Patterson, Community Planning Director
Traci Clark, Admin. Assistant

Kiki Miller, Council Liaison

County Commissioner Present:

Jon Mueller, Chair

Commissioners Absent:

11:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Burns at 11:00 a.m.

MINUTES: **ITEM BELOW IS CONSIDERED TO BE AN ACTION ITEM**

Commissioner Anderson commented that her name was spelled incorrectly from the December minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Shaffer, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the minutes for December 11, 2024 with the correction to commissioner Anderson's name. Motion carried.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

None.

STAFF COMMENTS:

None.

Election of Officers

Commissioner Emerson made the motion to retain Chairman Burns as Chairman, commissioner Miller as Vice Chair and commissioner Anderson as Secretary for the 2025 year, seconded by Commissioner Shepperd. Motion carried.

Logo Design

Commissioner Miller has designed two logos, one with the Wilma and one with the Roosevelt. The commission discussed the various logo designs and decided that the Roosevelt logo was the one they would like to use.

Liaison Miller suggested the logo should have the correct color, font and script so when it shrinks down on letter head or business cards, it will be legible. She likes that the design is circular.

The commission asked Commissioner Miller to make a few more changes. They want the circular design, and they like that it includes established in 2019. They asked if that could be centered in the middle. They like the colors. They do want the logo to have Coeur d'Alene Idaho, but would like some fonts changed to make them more legible. They asked for Preservation Commission to be enlarged so that Historic isn't the only word that stands out. There was also some discussion about having options to place some of the text under the logo design to make the logo design scalable for various uses. They would like to see the changes at the February commission meeting and approve it at the commission meeting in February.

Government Way Corridor Focus Group Meeting

Liaison Miller asked what streets determine this neighborhood.

Commissioner Emerson and Chairman Burns replied there have been three areas of focus: Government Way from Foster to Harrison, the area extending to the east to include 2nd Street, and to the West they considered going to the A, B, C Streets. The focus group on Wednesday is comprised of residents only on Government Way. Chairman Burns will provide a map of the neighborhood during the discussion and show the boundaries on the map.

Chairman Burns stated this meeting will take place at City Hall in conference Room 6 from 11:00 -1:00. There will only be a few members of the neighborhood, The Nipps, Roberge's, Mr. Dodge, Mr. Grant, Dennis Grant and Mr. Widmyer. The commissioners that will be in attendance will be Emerson, Shaffer, Sardell and Charman Burns and Ms. Patterson. They would like have a discussion regarding what they love about the neighborhood, the concerns, changes whether good or bad, etc.. They will be asked what guidelines for new construction would they might support, and then discuss some tools that are available, such as Historic Overlay, demolition review, historic district, etc., and answer their questions.

Preservation Month and Heart of History Awards

Chairman Burns suggested having the County Historic Preservation Commission involved as well in the month of May. He would like to kick off the celebration with the acknowledgment that the Gardin District will be listed in the National Register as a historic district.

Ms. Patterson suggested having the reception at the Museum or the Masonic Temple.

Chairman Burns stated he will speak with Britt Thurman and suggested commissioner McCracken also speak to her about it as well.

Commissioner Miller suggested the HREI building.

Chairman Burns commented he would like to have some commissioners at the Farmers Market again and include the County Historic Preservation Commission as well. The open house at The Depot was a great success last year and he would like to continue with that.

The commission brought up the PJ Johnson house for the Heart of History, St. Thomas Church, The Wiggett Building and the Presbyterian Church, which was the first established church in Coeur d'Alene. There was a suggestion of giving an award to the developer of the Roosevelt Inn recognizing their preservation efforts. Chairman Burns noted that Roosevelt Inn developer has not purchased the property as of yet so maybe they consider that award for next year. Having an award such as that might shed some light on developers showing they want to work with the community and preserving history and not just tearing down structures.

Ms. Patterson stated she met with Rick Seigmund, with Wild Coast Craftsmen. She invited him to a meeting in February. He lives in Dalton Gardens and he has a historic preservation and custom building background. He would like to be involved and maybe do some kind of workshop.

Commissioner Sardell stated she met with him as well and she states he is aspiring to do these things but feels he does not have the full knowledge of wood window restoration yet. He is going to a workshop in February. He has a lot of energy and has a construction background.

Chairman Burns commented he would like to put together a list of craftsmen and contractors who do work on older homes so the commission can make that information available to the community.

Joint Efforts with County HPC

Chairman Burns stated he would still like to have some kind of historical marker designed and have it be a consistent design that is used by both the City and the County.

County Chairman Jon Mueller commented that they received a grant in December of \$25,000.00. This will fund two projects, the first will fund the County network program, this will pay for a consultant to design markers that will be placed in the County as a means to create a network for historical tourism at multiple sites. This will be expanded from Post Falls, Spirit Lake, etc. The second piece will be the County Court House Centennial. They are looking at having brochures at the visitor center or chamber.

Chairman Burns stated he would like this commission to get involved as well with putting together some kind of walking tour in downtown Coeur d'Alene with some kind of brochure so people can walk and read about the history regarding the old buildings.

Court House Centennial

Chairman Burns reiterated the funding that the County Historic Preservation Commission received for the Centennial celebration in 2026 and that the County's commission is interested in doing a photo exhibit.

County Chairman Mueller commented they would like to have a series of lectures in the Fall about the architecture and the architects who did a lot of work around the area. They would like to speak with the family of some judges in the city and going back to even the reservation and ceasing the county seat from Rathdrum. He asked if this commission has any other ideas, please let him know.

Farragut Buildings

Chairman Burns stated he would like to start identifying where the Farragut buildings were moved to in the City and County as a joint effort. The commission learned that some of the buildings are located in the County Fairgrounds. He would like to know if the commission would like to make it a goal this year to start making a list of those buildings.

Commissioner Anderson commented that sometimes as a realtor she does hear from the homeowners that their home were a Farragut home. She will also look to see if the title companies might have this information.

Commissioner Sardell replied in those cases she thinks the commissioners should write those homes down in the list, and contact information of the homeowner and look up the home in the National Archive. Sometimes the deed can also be a clue if the building has been moved.

Commissioner McCracken stated he thinks it would be great to start the list this year.

Liaison Miller asked where would this list be archived? Maybe the public could also add to the list as well.

Commissioner Sardell suggested having the list be archived for the public on Facebook or through the Museum's public page. The commission liked that suggestion and thought a post could also be on Nextdoor asking people to share information if they own a property with a Farragut building and also ask them to help identify other locations where they might be located.

Joint Commission Meetings with Urban Forestry and Planning & Zoning

Ms. Patterson stated that the Urban Forestry Commission goes hand in hand with HCP, and the P&Z Commission has indicated they would like to have a meeting because they would like to learn more about the historic overlay and other possible zoning tools. She suggested that it would be best to do separate workshops with those commissions.

Commissioner Sardell suggested on the Demolition Permit to add the Heritage Tree Program and in the future the commission needs to look at as well.

Neighborhood Names

Chairman Burns asked if the commission wants to have specific boundaries and names for neighborhoods, and if this should be a project for the HPC. If so, he suggested forming a subcommittee to do some research.

The commissioners decided to put this on the back burner for now.

City Park Survey/Nominations

Chairman Burns said that County Chairman Mueller has asked for assistance from the commission with a nomination of City Park to the National Register of Historic Places. He wanted to have more discussion with the commission on if this should be a priority this year and if the commission should apply for CLG grant funds for the work.

Ms. Patterson clarified that the deadline for the CLG grant funds for 2026 is not feasible because it is already January and she would need to get City Council approval. She also noted that the commission discussed previously the opportunity to possibly do a survey of the park first and also get input from SHPO on eligibility and if they think this type of survey would be prioritized for CLG grant funds or not.

Commissioner Sardell stated a survey of City Park would help the commission to understand what is there and does not prohibit the commission from moving forward with a nomination in the future. Parks is more maintenance. This would be nominated for a Cultural Landscape.

County Chairman Mueller commented that he sent a couple of documents to Chairman Burns. They are nominations for Manito Park and Neighborhood Park in Spokane just as a way to see what they had done in their nominations. This commission might want to look into work on this down the road for a grant.

Commissioner Anderson replied the City Park should be combined with the City Beach and Memorial Field.

Commissioner Emerson stated he would like this to be on the list of priorities for the commission.

Commissioner Shepperd stated he agrees to have City Park be protected at a national level so it cannot be built on in the future.

Chairman Burns replied that if the commission worked on this throughout the year, the deadline to apply for CLG grant funds would be in January 2026.

Other Historic Preservation Priorities

Commissioner Sardell stated she did provide the report regarding the I-90 project. The only significant properties that might be in jeopardy are from 4th Street to the 15th Street exit. They are in their final draft wanting to submit sometime this month to the State Historic Preservation Office for review. ITD's consultants did find the Hudson's mid-century modern home is in area. They do suggest that there is a potential district within or around the Hudson house which is on 15th Street and Spokane Avenue. There was an adjustment to the report. The sound walls were removed from the project by ITD due to their significant impact which could create adverse effects in the current version of the report. Sound walls might be added back to the project when it comes to the construction phase. This project would not be complete for another 15 years. She feels like she has done everything as an historian to put feedback from the commission into ITD's report. There will be a chance in the future to weigh in again.

Commissioner Anderson commented that an area that was a hot spot to be for mid-century homes is called the Monte Vista subdivision and she feels like this should be protected. This is on the other side of I-90, between 9th Street and 12th Street, and includes the McFarland Homestead. She also stated trees that have been cut down on Sherman and I-90 would have made a great sound barrier.

Commissioner Sardell replied that those trees are exempt from any kind of Interstate corridors. The commission agreed it is unfortunate the trees have been removed by ITD because they added to the historic character of the area and did provide a visual and sound barrier.

Chairman Burns stated he would like the commission to read commissioner Sardell's report and if anyone has in comments, please email her and copy the HCP and staff by Friday.

Demolition Review Meeting

Chairman Burns stated he would like to have the subcommittee meet to discuss the house on 918 Pennsylvania regarding the first demolition review meeting that will take place on January 22. This is part of the Garden District. The applicant Corey Stach wants to demo the house and put two houses since it is a double lot. The applicant has balked loudly about this process of having to go through the HPC process.

County Chairman Mueller states this is his childhood home.

Liaison Miller stated that the applicant is a third generation Coeur d'Alene native, and not a big out-of-state developer. This should be a good discussion of what it is that this commission wants these homes to look like with our third generation friends and neighbors. The citizens are supporting this commission because they have created a beautiful community they want to live in, and they want this historic charm preserved. The HCP is here because the community is supporting this effort and preservation of homes like this. Mr. Stach signed the permit and he knew what the process was. He needs to join us and show how he can listen to his friends and neighbors and don't make us be ugly, and don't force the process to be bad. The reality is, at the end of the day, they are being asked to be mindful of what the commission is recommending. If the public speaks and he knows this is in the Garden District and if he chooses to ignore the advice of the commission, that's on him. There is nothing wrong with having a good design for the neighborhood and listening to your community.

Downtown Reconnaissance Survey Kickoff

Did not have time to discuss.

TRACKING TIME:

Chairman Burns reminded the commission to track their time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Sardell, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Submitted by Traci Clark, Administrative Assistant

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