

LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers

PRESENT

Commission: David Black, Jeff Crane, Erich Ebel, Kimberly Goetz, Seth Huff, Seiji Naotsuka, and Sarah Thirtyacre.

Excused: Alan Tyler.

Staff: Jennifer Burbidge, Parks and Recreation Director; Carolyn Elliott, Office Assistant; and Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator.

Public: Lanny Weaver, Lacey Historical Society

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair, Erich Ebel.

AGENDA

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the agenda as written.

MINUTES

The December 18, 2019 minutes were approved as written and placed on record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Reminder Joint Historical Commission-City Council Worksession, February 6, at 7:00 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- a. Reminder: January 29, 5:30 p.m. History Talks! Lacey's Role in Radio History

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Depot Trail Amenity:
 - Tour to be scheduled prior to worksession
 - City is considering opening the buildings for restroom use only first, followed by private rentals, and later events and other supervised activities
 - With supervision, interior decorations and historical components could be reconsidered
 - Commissioners would prefer that we stick to the original plan—to start with the building being open for trail use, as previously decided.
- b. New Museum Project.
 - The first deliverable for KMB was cost analysis. Two paths became clear, working within the grant amount or requiring additional investment.
 - Early estimates for the 16,000 ft² building and complete site are in the \$19 million range, which is a stretch for fundraising efforts. Further, it would

require an additional immediate investment of approximately \$600K for the design

- Knowing it would be difficult to realistically get to that number, and knowing we should not ask for additional funds, we are recalibrating. It's important we are mindful of public dollars and also accountable to the grant amount.

Options include:

- Smaller footprint than 16,000 square feet
- Constructing the museum in a different location on the site
- Using the 5700 Lacey Blvd asset until such time it would need to come down.
- The end result will finally be a product to move forward with (and communicate to the public) with phases identified and begin a fundraising campaign.
 - Phase 1 – Depot & Playground (already underway)
 - Phase 2 – Site Work
 - Phase 3 & 4 – Part one and two of the building
 - Phase 5 – potential future expansion

Discussion followed regarding various ideas on how to trim costs. Commissioners had questions regarding design of the building, communication plan, marketing message and stakeholder meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Recent Acquisitions.

Motion carried to approve recent acquisitions.

- b. 2019 Museum Annual Report. Ms. Quinn Valcho gave highlights of her report. Mr. Ebel praised Ms. Quinn Valcho for the work she has accomplished this past year; all the Commissioners concurred.

Ad Hoc COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Policy/StEPs Committee. (on hiatus)
- b. Archaeology Committee. Have not met. Ms. Thirtyacre has been talking with past Olympia Historical Commissioners, who are archeologists and have stepped down from their rolls as Commissioners they are interested in a conversation with us. She will work on setting up a meeting and have them do a presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Lacey Historical Society. Ms. Weaver reported:
 - The Lacey Historical Society Board has approved in their budget to co-Sponsor half of the cost of the interpretive panel at the Jacob Smith House.
 - Working on the 40th Anniversary of Lacey Historical Society.
- b. Others. None present.

REPORTS

- a. Museum/Curator. Ms. Quinn Valcho shared that interviews had taken place for the grant position. They had several qualified candidates.
- b. Commissioners.
 - **Commissioner Crane** reported that he would be spending a semester conducting oral history of the monks.
 - In addition to providing a written report, **Commissioner Black** reported that while the siding situation on the Bowker House is complicated, the salvaged German siding on the property matches the ship-lap profile of the earlier siding on the house and is acceptable for replacement.
 - **Commissioner Thirtyacre** asked if there was a better way to get information about local history events. Ms. Quinn Valcho suggested that Commissioners subscribe to the Olympia Historical Society's bulletin.
- c. Chair. Tuesday, January 28, 7 p.m. Mr. Ebel will be giving a talk about the Allen Street Bridge Collapse at McMenamin's in Centralia.
- d. **Parks & Recreation Director**.
 - Ms. Burbidge and Mr. Crane will meet next Wednesday to go over the food forest concept at Woodland Creek Community Park.
 - Ms. Burbidge applauded Ms. Quinn Valcho for an amazing year for the Museum and for all her hard work and dedication.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Lacey City Hall