

# LACEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 21, 2018 6:00 p.m.  
Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers

## **PRESENT**

Commission: Jeff Crane, Erich Ebel, Kimberly Goetz, Seth Huff, Thomas Smith, Thomas Sui (arrived at 6:01 p.m. and left at 7:14 p.m.) and Alan Tyler.

Staff: Jennifer Burbidge, Carolyn Elliott and Erin Quinn Valcho.

Public: Lanny Weaver and Susan Goff, Lacey Historical Society; Diane Bingamon and Gina Armer, St. Martin's University; and John Masterson, Lacey Rotary Club.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Erich Ebel.

## **AGENDA**

Item 8h added to the agenda, under Old Business, Recap of Council Work Session.

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

## **MINUTES**

The January 17, 2018 minutes were approved as corrected and placed on record.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

No announcements.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

No changes to the calendar.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Lacey Rotary 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project. John Masterson presented a legacy project proposal to commemorate Lacey Rotary Club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The project would include a train-themed playground and a low-maintenance edible trail. Dr. Crane offered his expertise in planning the edible trail. Ms. Burbidge will check the status of irrigation along the Karen Fraser Woodland Trail. A resource management plan will have to be developed.
- b. New Museum Site Update. At the May 1 meeting, Council approved proceeding with the application for the state Heritage Capital grant, due May 19. Ms. Quinn Valcho is taking the lead. If we can identify \$2 million in matching funds, we can apply for up to \$1 million grant funds. Matching funds can include funds already expended from July 1, 2013; so they can include purchase of the new museum building and the Lebanon Street project including utilities. The grant project will allow us to complete construction documents and then we would use the remainder for the exterior which Council identified as a priority.

All revenues collected from leasing out the building can be used as cash match money. Staff are working on a plan to charge internal users for the new museum site so that funds go towards the new museum, like they do for the Jacob Smith House.

Timeline, assuming we get grant funding:

- 2018-Strategic planning begins for funding, budgeting, and establishing development phases of new museum site and building renovation.
- 2018-2019 Construction of Depot Trail Amenity

Once the site plan is in its final stages then the installation of the edible trail and playground can begin.

- c. Train Depot Trail Amenity Update. Originally scheduled to go out to bid in December, it did not because Council is not comfortable with the cost estimate. A redesign brought costs down by \$52,000 but it is still not acceptable. A meeting is scheduled with the consultants to see how to further reduce costs. If still out of our price range, a decision may be made to put the Depot Trail Amenity and Lebanon Street extension out to bid together in January 2019. Mr. Tyler asked to attend the meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ebel expressed his concerns regarding the date being pushed out for the Depot Trail Amenity. Ms. Burbidge confirmed that the timeline is based on Council's direction.
- d. Long's Pond Signage. A decision was made to have the traditional brown historical sign installed at Long's Pond. Ms. Burbidge will look into the costs of a way finding/directional signage for Woodland Creek.
- e. Depot District Sub-area plan event debrief. Ms. Quinn Valcho, Mr. Huff and Ms. Goetz attended the three days of studio hours, where the public could come and learn about the Depot Area. The following ideas were the most popular: a college town district "vibe" inclusive of multi-cultural business/restaurants, lowering the speed limit on Pacific Ave, a pedestrian walkway from St. Martin's historic staircase to Pacific Ave, and continuing to support local businesses. It became clear as a result of this event that it will be important to communicate with nearby residents regarding the museum project.
- f. New Museum Draft Communication Plan. Ms. Burbidge will update the timeline and add Next Door to the social media section. Mr. Ebel stated he would like to see more measurable goals and specific audiences added to the plan. The communication plan's main message needs to be identified.
- g. Pleasant Glade house photos. Ms. Burbidge and Mr. Tyler took photos of the Pleasant Glade house which is scheduled to be demolished. Mr. Tyler will bring the photos to next month's meeting.
- h. Recap of annual joint City Council Worksession.
  - Mr. Ebel highlighted the Commission's accomplishments .
  - Ms. Burbidge presented the Work Plan.  
The Commission expressed concerns regarding the Mayor's idea of a spray park at the site of the new museum. Ms. Burbidge would like the Historical Commission to reconsider the idea and highlighted the advantages.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Recent Acquisitions.

### **Motion approved to accept recent acquisitions.**

- b. Thurston County through the Decades Transition. The Commission was asked to vote on their preferred top three options for a new event. Ms. Quinn Valcho suggested: #1 Continue with TCTC paired the Thurston County Fair and #2 Thurston County History Crawl (change the word crawl). A motion was made to adopt that suggestion. After discussion, the motion failed and a new motion was made.

### **Motion approved to adopt the following list in order for the Commission's vote:**

- #1 Continue with TCTD combined with the Thurston County Fair on Sunday**  
**#2 Thurston County Cemetery Tour**  
**#3 Thurston County History Crawl (change the word crawl)**

- c. Gallagher House. The Lacey Historical Society has listed this property for sale, which will affect our summer events. Staff has decided, with the Commission's input, to refocus summer events on smaller events that can be used to test out ideas for the new museum. Ms. Quinn Valcho will bring in an updated work plan and calendar to the next meeting.
- d. Updated Boards & Commissions Handbook. Council has approved the following changes:
- Commissioners are asked to use provided disclaimer when using social media.
  - Commissioners will receive a City email account.
  - Meeting packets will be posted on the website and a link to them provided in an email.

## **Ad Hoc COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Policy/StEPs. Committee will be on hiatus while Ms. Quinn Valcho works on the grants

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. Lacey Historical Society. Susan Goff brought in items to donate to the museum. Lanny Weaver reported:
- Annual Historical Society meeting will be September 27, 2018, at the Community Center with the theme, "This is your life, Shirley Dziedzic!"
  - The Gallagher house has been put on the market. An offer has been made and accepted. The new owner signed a commitment to keep it on the historic register.
  - The front parcel facing Lacey Street (.8 acres) was put on the market separately and an offer has been accepted.

## **REPORTS**

- a. Museum/Curator. Ms. Quinn Valcho reported on highlights from her written report. Marisa Merkel, Museum Assistant/Educator has been hired and will begin work on March 22, 2018. She will work Fridays and Saturdays.

- b. Commissioners. Mr. Huff reported that he took Ken Balsley's historical tour of Thurston County. He has found about eight good sites for geocaches. Mr. Huff will set up a meeting with Youth Commissioner Thomas Sui to go over the geocache project. This meeting will be conducted at City Hall with Ms. Burbidge or Ms. Quinn Valcho attending.
- c. Chair. No report
- d. Parks & Recreation Director.
  - An interview is scheduled for the open Historical Commissioner position on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Vice Chair Goetz will attend.
  - At the Council Retreat on February 9<sup>th</sup>, it was decided that Elway research will conduct a survey to see if there is public support for a Metropolitan Park District.

**ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, April 18, 2018, 6:00 p.m. at Lacey City Hall, Council Chambers