

MINUTES

Cheney Historic Preservation Commission November 4, 2004

Commissioners Attending: Martin Seedorf, Bettye Hull, Aimee Flinn and Chris Stewart.

Commissioners Absent: Charles Mutschler, Steve Emerson and Nikki Gamon.

Staff Attending: Glenn Scholten and Susan Beeman.

Councilpersons Attending: None.

Call to Order: Vice-Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 5:28 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Seedorf, seconded by Commissioner Flinn, to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2004 Regular Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission as distributed. Motion carried.

Citizen Participation: Chairman Hull welcomed Mary Jane Booth and thanked her for attending.

Old Business: Cronk's Hill Resolution. Ms. Beeman asked if the written resolution accurately reflected the discussion at the September meeting. Commissioner Seedorf made a motion to approve the Cronk's Hill Resolution as distributed, and to deliver it to the Mayor. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried unanimously.

New Business: Report on the Cheney Historical Museum. Mary Jane Booth reported on the status of the museum after frozen pipes burst and caused extensive water damage last winter. She expressed appreciation to Steve Heidecker who repaired water-damaged furniture and painted walls, and to the ladies of the Tilicum Club who have been sorting and cataloging items that were quickly removed from the flooded area and boxed for safekeeping. The Hilton family donated a new Dell computer to the museum, along with software to catalog the collection. Ms. Booth said that they hope to open this spring at the usual time. She said that volunteers would be helpful in entering their information into the museum, and in keeping the museum open additional hours. And as always, donations are accepted. Other immediate needs are for painting the front of the building, and for a larger sign on 1st Street directing visitors toward the museum.

2004-05 West Cheney Survey Project. Ms. Beeman reviewed the proposed timeline for issuing a Request for Proposals and completing the survey project. Commissioner Flinn asked who we would be soliciting proposals from, and suggested that the Spokane Historic Preservation Office has a current list of local consultants which differs slightly from the OAHF list, with a few more consultants who are local to the Spokane area.

Discussion followed on the format for interviewing long-time Cheney residents. Ms. Beeman said that a new recording system in the Courtroom should be in place by the first of January which would allow us to record the conversations directly to CDs. That way, we can summarize the information at a later time, without having to take extensive notes during the interview sessions. Discussion

followed on format and who should be invited. Commission members will contact the following people to determine their interest and availability for interview sessions to begin in early January:

Commissioner Hull: Norma Smith, Margaret Fischer, and Ellen Proctor
Commissioner Stewart: Homer Dickerson, Mike Miller, Marilyn & Claude Nichols
Commissioner Seedorf: Dale Stradling, Dick Langdon
Commissioner Flinn: Charlie Mutschler
Mr. Scholten: Ted Ham, Bill Geschke

Ms. Beeman suggested showing photographs of houses in the survey area and starting the discussion by asking about the people who lived there.

Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Stewart shared a copy of a booklet entitled “Women: Community Builders in a Small College Town,” which was prepared by the Tilicum club. She suggested it was a good example of how to do oral histories. Commissioner Flinn said that Commissioner Mutschler uses those in a class he teaches, and he may have additional copies available to share with commission members.

Commissioner Flinn reported on the ongoing attempts of Spokane preservation advocates to save the Rookery Block from demolition.

Commissioner Hull showed an old photograph that was found in her house and asked if anyone recognized the arched brickwork in the photo. The photographer’s stamp reads “Walter H. Parker.”

Staff Reports: Mr. Scholten reported that the new owner of the Dorothy Anderson House (Moorman House) at 308 4th Street has been unable to find a buyer for the house who will move it off the lot, and is pursuing plans to demolish it.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Commissioner Stewart made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Flinn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hull adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Approved:

Charles Mutschler, Chairman

Susan Beeman, Secretary