

MINUTES

Cheney Historic Preservation Commission October 2, 2008

Commissioners Attending: Bettye Hull, Charlie Mutschler, Fred Lauritsen, Scott Wilbanks, Aimee Flinn, Steve Emerson and Chris Stewart.

Commissioners Absent: None.

Staff Attending: Brian Jennings & Susan Beeman.

Councilpersons Attending: None.

Call to Order: Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Hull asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. Commissioner Mutschler requested a spelling correction on the first page. The minutes of the September 4, 2008 meeting were approved as corrected.

Citizen Participation: None.

Old Business: Sterling-Moorman House Preservation Project.

Ms. Beeman summarized a meeting last week with Lorna Walsh, Chief Development Officer at the Museum of Arts & Culture. Ms. Walsh had some suggestions for us on how to approach fundraising efforts for the Sterling-Moorman House project, especially in tight economic times. She recommended involving school kids, especially if we can tie in the project to the years when Washington State history is being taught (4th and 7th grades). Ms. Walsh encouraged us not to discount small donors; you won't find very many benefactors who give large dollar amounts. And she suggested that since the Sterling-Moorman House has had a series of women owners, that we look particularly for support from women's organizations, such as Spokane Junior League, or EWU sororities. She suggested looking for the answer to the question, "Why would they care?", and looking for the link between established organizations and our project.

Ms. Walsh suggested contacting other organizations with links to history and to the Cheney community. Burlington Northern Railroad has a foundation which supports projects like this. She felt the brick paver sales are a good alternative for funding, and our goal of \$55,000 is a reachable objective.

Discussion followed on brick paver sales. How many bricks would be needed? This was a very successful fundraising method for both the Cheney Library and the Downtown Revitalization Project. Commissioner Stewart noted that the Cheney Free Press played a large role in the

success of the library fundraising campaign by publishing the names of donors each week. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Flinn reported on her trip to Washington DC and the Pentagon.

Commissioner Stewart distributed copies of the Easterner newspaper which had an article on the Hargreaves Hall remodel. She pointed out the new web site for the Cheney Historical Museum, www.cheneymuseum.org and noted that it has information on becoming a Friend of the Cheney Museum. She reported on Ernie McMillan's book signing, which was very successful.

Commissioner Emerson said that he has been accepted as a writer for www.historylink.com, the Washington history web site, and 5 of his articles have been posted so far. He added that since his term on this commission is expiring, he will be leaving at the end of the year after 6 years on the Cheney Historic Preservation Commission, and another 6 on the Spokane Landmarks Commission.

Commissioner Mutschler said that he has been in touch with people at the University regarding Hargreaves Hall and the President's house. He said there are not very many photos in the archives of university presidents with their families.

Chairman Hull reported that the Tilicum Club is thinking about having a table at Cheney's Winterfest on Saturday, December 6. She wondered if we could also have a table on behalf of the Sterling-Moorman House.

Commissioner Stewart said that she appreciates the extra time and effort that Ernie Robeson put into preparation of the Sterling-Moorman House Preservation Plan. In the past, the mayor has been willing to issue a proclamation honoring citizens who are deserving of special recognition. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to request the Mayor consider issuing a proclamation honoring Ernie Robeson for his work on the Sterling-Moorman House Preservation Plan. Seconded by Commissioner Wilbanks. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports: None.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Chairman Hull adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Approved:

Bettye Hull, Chairman

Susan Beeman, Secretary