

## MINUTES

### Cheney Historic Preservation Commission October 5, 2006

**Commissioners Attending:** Bettye Hull, Martin Seedorf, Fred Lauritsen, Nikki Gamon, Aimee Flinn and Chris Stewart.

**Commissioners Absent:** Steve Emerson.

**Staff Attending:** Susan Beeman.

**Councilpersons Attending:** None.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Seedorf, to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2006 Regular Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, with a correction on the spelling of John McCallum's name. Motion carried unanimously.

**Citizen Participation:** Chairman Hull welcomed John McCallum of the Cheney Free Press.

**Old Business: Moorman House Update.** Ms. Beeman reported that the foundation is complete under the Moorman House, except for the areas that will be filled in after the house is set down on the walls and the steel I-beams are removed. That should be finished up next week.

Shirley Lambert, a member of the Spokane Treasure Hunters Club, spent some time metal detecting around the old site of the Moorman House and found several interesting items, including square nails, a brass ring, and an old can with an impression from the Councilman Company, Buffalo, NY. She will show these items at a club meeting and then turn them over to the Historic Preservation Commission for a display on the house.

Ms. Beeman reported that we will be applying for grants to proceed with preservation planning for the Moorman House. Commissioner Flinn asked if we qualify as a Preserve America community yet. Ms. Beeman explained that one of the criteria for being named a Preserve America community is to give an example of a history-related project which was supported by a variety of community sponsors. The Moorman House move probably qualifies us, and we will be applying for status as a Preserve America community, which will make a number of grant opportunities available to us.

**New Business: 2007 Grant Project – Workshop Planning Session.** Discussion was held on possible topics and formats for the workshop on appropriate restoration/rehabilitation of historic buildings. Pathways to Progress has asked if we would be interested in partnering with them to sponsor the workshop. They have an interest in facade improvements for the commercial buildings in the downtown historic district, and would like to introduce the draft design guidelines. Our proposal was a workshop to emphasize how to do appropriate remodels to residential structures. It seems that we could develop something with two (or more) different tracks, and have a couple of general sessions that would be applicable to both groups. Suggested topics: Building Exteriors; Building Interiors; Residential Rehab; Commercial Buildings.

Commissioner Flinn said that the most popular component of similar workshops in Spokane has proved to be the case studies, especially where a homeowner, developer or architect shared the details of their project, with photos and a first-person testimonial on what went right and what didn't work so well.

Chairman Hull suggested contacting Master Gardeners for a list of resources, such as heirloom plants, and a list of arborists. She would like to see other resources made available to participants. For example, where do you go to find out about historic paint colors?

Commissioner Flinn suggested several participants in the Renovators' Fair who might be good resources for workshop sessions. She will forward information to Ms. Beeman next week.

Commissioner Lauritsen noted that the Campbell House at the Museum of Arts & Culture has been through a major restoration, and the committee involved with that project has been working on it for years. Commissioner Stewart suggested that we contact Michael Houser at DAHP to see if he might be available; he did a 'This Old House'-style presentation at the MAC several months ago, and he is an excellent presenter.

Discussion continued. A session on how to research your house's history might be appropriate. Commissioner Flinn will check with Nancy Campau to see if she might be willing to present on that topic.

**Commissioner Reports:** Commissioner Seedorf announced that he will be offering his resignation from the Commission due to increasing family commitments. Chairman Hull thanked him for his many contributions to preservation in Cheney.

Commissioner Lauritsen shared photographs from the farm tours he gave in Minnesota last summer, and a brochure from a preservation conference held recently in Red Wing, MN.

Chairman Hull suggested that another topic of interest might be something on reusing upper floors of Main Street buildings. She asked if there has been any answer on whether the Cheney HPC might be able to have a membership in the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Ms. Beeman will check on our budget status.

Commissioner Flinn reported that the Navy Ball will be held on Friday, October 13, at the Davenport Hotel. Civilians are invited to attend. She shared copies of the article she wrote for Spokane Living magazine. Commissioner Flinn will miss the November meeting since she is attending the National Trust conference in Pittsburg that week.

Commissioner Stewart reported that EWU's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary is in April 2007. There is a group on campus planning some activities in celebration of our educational heritage. She suggested that we open a dialogue with the university in tying in to our workshop next spring, and make an effort to coordinate dates and schedules with this group, as well as with Bloomsday and Lilac Festival activities.

**Staff Reports:** Ms. Beeman reported that the final report on our year-long community visioning process will be given at the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, October 9. She invited members of the Commission to attend.

Ms. Beeman asked if there will be any additional members attending the CLG training on Friday, October 20 at the Spokane City Hall, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Chairman Hull adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

**Approved:**

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Bettye Hull, Chairman

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Susan Beeman, Secretary