

## **MINUTES**

### **Cheney Historic Preservation Commission December 6, 2007**

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

**Commissioners Absent:** Stephen Emerson.

**Staff Attending:** Tom Richardson and Susan Beeman.

**Councilpersons Attending:** None.

**Call to Order:** Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 5:27 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Mutschler made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2007 meeting as distributed. Seconded by Commissioner Stewart; motion carried unanimously.

**Citizen Participation:** None.

**Written Decision: Local Register Nomination – 213 C Street / Joseph & Cynthia Halasey House.** Ms. Beeman explained that the written decision will be forwarded to City Council, and they will pass a resolution affirming the decision points listed as the basis for approval of the addition to the Cheney Register. The chairman's signature is also needed on the front page of the original application for local register listing.

Commissioner Mutschler made a motion to approve the written decision as distributed. Seconded by Commissioner Lauritsen; motion carried unanimously.

**Written Decision: Local Register Nomination – 325/327 1<sup>st</sup> Street / Independent Order of Odd Fellows Building (IOOF).**

Commissioner Mutschler noted that Mr. Barber, the former owner of the IOOF Building, sent several boxes of IOOF records to the EWU Archives. These are available to any researcher who would like to sit down and look through them.

Chairman Hull reported that the Tilicum Club has a few scattered items from the IOOF, but it is still uncertain where several boxes of records and other items have gone that Commissioner Wilbanks saw in the building several years ago. This included a wooden box used for voting purposes, filled with white marbles and one black marble, and a banner which measured approximately 3' x 4'.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the written decision as distributed. Seconded by Commissioner Wilbanks; motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business: Request for Proposals – Preservation Planning Consultant**

Mr. Richardson explained the process established by the State for the City to hire architects, engineers and landscape architects. We will publish notice of a Request for Proposals, and the selection is based on qualifications. After the qualified professional is selected, then we discuss the cost of the service to be provided.

### **Commissioner Reports:**

Commissioner Flinn announced that she was hired this week by Kaufmann & Associates as Executive Assistant to the CEO. She is no longer associated with the Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office.

Commissioner Lauritsen commented that the mission of the Historic Preservation Commission fits very well into the missions of many other departments of the City, beyond just the Pathways to Progress organization. He reported that in the last couple of months he has attended estate sales held at the homes of long-time Cheney residents.

Commissioner Mutschler noted that there is a real interest in barn preservation right now, and he has recently taken a few photographs of barns in the immediate area.

Commissioner Wilbanks announced that his new art studio is completed and open, and he would be happy to show it to anyone here who is interested.

Commissioner Stewart reported that a couple associated with Eastern Washington University has nominated their barn to the new State register. It is located near Rosalia, and she will have photos to share with the group at our next meeting.

**Staff Reports:** Mr. Richardson announced that there are vacancies on the Pathways board. This would involve a monthly meeting, on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., and maybe a few hours each month of additional work on a project.

Mr. Richardson said that the Mayor would like the Commission's help to develop and promote a book on Cheney history to observe our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008. Discussion followed on the idea of re-publishing Virginia White's book on the history of Cheney that was first published around the time of the town's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was suggested that Ellen Proctor's biographies of the Cheney mayors is a wonderful compilation, and received limited promotion.

Chairman Hull noted that the Tilicum Club was active in getting garbage collection established in the City, along with many other community building activities. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Mutschler suggested that there may be several ways to approach this project; for instance, we could publish material on a CD for much less cost than a traditional book. Mr. Richardson suggested that we organize some kind of event, perhaps a banquet with people in period costumes; a lecture; etc. The official date of our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary is November 11, 2008. There was discussion on a tie-in to the EWU Homecoming, which usually falls in October.

Commissioner Wilbanks asked about the status of a Cronk's Hill memorial. Mr. Richardson explained that the developer who had purchased that land is planning to sell it, so any preliminary discussions that were held will have to be started over with a new owner.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Chairman Hull adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

**Approved:**

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Bettye Hull, Chairman

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Susan Beeman, Secretary