

MINUTES

Cheney Historic Preservation Commission Regular Meeting (Utility Building)

April 4, 2019

Commissioners Attending: Scott Wilbanks, Lee Pierce, Martin Seedorf & Steve Emerson.

Commissioners Absent: Bettye Hull & Richard Donley.

Staff Attending: Terry Mourning & Susan Beeman.

Councilpersons Attending: None.

Call to Order: Vice-Chairman Wilbanks called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Deferred to a future meeting.

Citizen Participation: None.

Old Business - Cheney Depot Report:

Ms. Beeman reported that a fire training exercise will be performed on April 28 to remove one of the buildings on the future site of the depot.

New Business – Certified Local Government Grant Application:

Ms. Beeman described a possible project in partnership with SpokaneHistoric to redevelop some of the information from our historic district walking tours in an appropriate format for mobile devices. Commissioner Pierce reported that he contacted Dr. Cebula about what is involved in developing interactive or mobile apps, and will work with Ms. Beeman to develop a grant application before the mid-April application deadline.

Commissioner Seedorf made a motion to approve submission of the grant application as described; seconded by Commissioner Emerson, and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business – Historic Downtowns and Tourism Video

A portion of a video on ‘Downtowns and Tourism’ from the Destination Development Association was shown, with discussion following. No action was taken.

Mr. Mourning reported that Cheney will host a Civil War reenactment on Memorial Day Weekend. This event is sanctioned by the Washington Civil War Association, and could draw up to 300 reenactors, and several thousand visitors to the community.

Election of Officers:

Commissioner Seedorf made a motion to nominate Commissioner Hull to serve as chairman; seconded by Commissioner Pierce. Commissioner Seedorf amended his motion to name Commissioner Wilbanks as vice-chairman; seconded by Commissioner Pierce, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Seedorf suggested that it would be appropriate to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of Dr. Charles Mutschler, who passed away suddenly a few weeks ago.

Chairman Wilbanks reported that his wife, Janet, is Artist in Residence this month at St. Gertrude's Abbey in Cottonwood, Idaho.

Staff Reports:

Ms. Beeman reported that the vacancy rate in Cheney's rental housing continues to register less than 2% vacant units. This low vacancy rate is driving substantial multi-family development in the community. Construction on Parkside Commons, in the area of Erie & N. 8th Street, is expected to begin this spring.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Approved:

Bettye Hull, Chairman

Susan Beeman, Secretary