

Burlington Historical Preservation Commission

Tuesday, July 9, 2019 @ 2:00 PM

Parks and Recreation Center

Conference Room – Use South Entrance

900 E. Fairhaven Avenue, Burlington WA 98233

Agenda:

CALL TO ORDER	Edie Edmundson
APPROVAL OF MINUTES (04/23/2019 Meeting)	Edie Edmundson
OPEN COMMENT	Edie Edmundson
OLD BUSINESS	Edie Edmundson
• Update on Historical Society 501c3	Edie Edmundson
• Addition to Historical Walking Tour	Edie Edmundson
• Carnegie Library	
<input type="checkbox"/> CLG Grant Process & Funding	Edie Edmundson/Margie Wilson
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Funding Options	Edie/Margie/Jennifer
NEW BUSINESS	
• September Exhibit	Margie Wilson/Larry Gilbert
ADJOURN	
Next Meeting : Tuesday, October 8, 2019 @2:00PM	

Enclosures:

:Minutes 04/23/2019 board meeting

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Burlington Historical Preservation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Board Members in Attendance: Edie Edmundson, Larry Gilbert, Chris Loving, Sara Patton and Margie Wilson

City Staff: Jennifer Berner and Shelley Johnstone

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Chairperson Edie Edmundson at 2:03PM.

MINUTES: Margie Wilson motions to accept the minutes of the 01/08/2019 board meeting as written; Chris Loving seconds the motion. All are in favor; motion is carried.

OPEN COMMENT

Sara Patton is welcomed as the newest addition of the commission. She will fill the Skagit County Historical Museum's representative position. Margie Wilson mentions that Sylvia Ammons of the Skagit Valley Genealogy Society may be interested in filling the Society's vacant representative position. Sylvia had planned to drop-in to this April meeting, but unfortunately broke her arm just prior. Jennifer Berner will reach out to Sylvia about the commission's July meeting and to see if she is ready to submit an application to participate in the commission.

"Reading Cemeteries". Margie Wilson shares that the Skagit Valley Genealogy Society will offer a "Reading Cemeteries" presentation on Saturday, May 11 at the Burlington Library, 1:00-3:00PM. This free presentation will center around deciphering gravestone types, their icons & inscriptions. Margie adds that it is hoped the presentation will spread awareness, and hopefully garner support, for the Society's project of 'reading' the Hawthorne Memorial Cemetery gravestones.

OLD BUSINESS

CLG Grant Submittal for Carnegie Library. Margie Wilson crafted the majority of the grant application with a bit of fine-tuning from Jennifer Berner and Public Works Director, Marv Pulst where city data was needed. Jennifer priority-mailed the application today to ensure it reaches DAHP offices by its Friday, April 26 deadline. The initial intent was to request grant funds to support the drafting of a conceptual plan for the Carnegie Library's repurposing, but a conversation with DAHP's Kim Gant pointed the grant request in a different direction. Kim suggested a more strategic first step would be to request funds that would support the hiring of a historic preservation planner. The planner would assist the commission in developing a business plan that would identify for DAHP why the concept plan is needed. In Kim's professional opinion, she felt that this new direction would have a better chance at getting funded. Approval by the council is not needed to apply; nonetheless, Jennifer would like council to be aware of the commission's goal. She will offer a report on the grant application at their April 25 meeting. Grant awards will be announced in September most likely, with funds available by October 2019.

Margie Wilson asks about options if the application is not fully funded. Jennifer answers that the City would be approached to see if assistance with funding would be available.

Historical Commission Ordinance Revision. Jennifer Berner offers reports on progress with updating the commission's current bylaws. She, City Planner, Brad Johnson and Edie Edmundson recently met with Kim Gant of DAHP to discuss the Certified Local Government (CLG) bylaws currently in place for the commission. Jennifer learned that the boiler-plate bylaws currently in place are very lengthy and portions contradict the City's municipal code. Brad has undertaken the hefty project of code cleanup and will work with Jennifer to align the bylaws with the municipal code. It will likely take the better part of 2019 to accomplish. Kim offered that the bylaws are fine for the present time; but, should be aligned with code prior to the commission proceeding with building assessments.

Margie Wilson asks what the commission can do to assist with the undertaking. Jennifer answers that it is in Brad's hands for the time being. She will bring it back to the commission for discussion as his progress advances.

Update on Displays & Programs. Larry Gilbert shares that the grand opening of the "Schools & Education" display at the VIC was well attended. He has been able to return just about all of the loaned artifacts to their owners from the previous display, "Burlington Means Business". Edie Edmundson says she has heard good reports on this display in particular. She feels the reason may be that it was aimed at a local audience. She feels that contemplating the target audience of the historic displays is a valuable consideration. Edie commends Larry on the incredible job he has done with the displays and with collecting the artifacts. He says he was recently contacted by Shirley Enrikin about a brick that has labeling from the old school house. Larry plans to include that in the current "Schools & Education" display. The next historical display will open in September, "Agriculture in Burlington". Larry mentions that local berry farmer Steve Sakuma has agreed to speak.

NEW BUSINESS

May Program/Partnering with Library. Margie Wilson reports on a few revisions to the year's programming schedule:

The programs originally scheduled for May and November will be flip-flopped. The Burlington Library has an opportunity to host a Humanities Washington program about the Japanese-American Exclusion in May. To take advantage of this opportunity, the "Tribute to Veterans" presentation will instead take place in November, which seems even more fitting with its proximity to Veterans Day. Margie says the Humanities Washington program "Let it Not Happen Again: Lessons of the Japanese American Exclusion" will no doubt be an exceptional program. She mentions that longtime resident and local historian Jim Neff is especially interested in the May program as he has personal stories to share about Burlington families that boarded trains to the internment camps.

Addition to Walking Tour Brochure. Edie Edmundson reports on an exciting new resource she happened upon. She recently attended an event at Skagit Historical Museum where she had the opportunity to quiz the museum's director, Jo Wolfe about their resource that made recorded interviews available to the public by dialing a numbered phone extension to hear the corresponding storyteller. Jo explained that subscribing to the resource is \$1500 annually, but the City of Burlington would qualify to be captured under the County museum's umbrella at no additional fee. Edie and Jennifer Berner felt this would be a wonderful enhancement to the commission's current Historical Walking Brochure guide. Commission members agree. Edie will follow-up with Jo about next steps.

Margie Wilson wonders if the now popular QR code could be included with the enhancement. Jennifer answers that it's a possibility, and trying it along with the Walking Brochure might be a good idea.

Meeting is concluded at 2:45PM.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 9, 2019 beginning at 2:00PM. The meeting takes place at the Parks and Recreation Center located at 900 E. Fairhaven Avenue. **Attendees should use the South Entrance** of the building.

Meeting minutes transcribed by Shelley Johnstone, secretary for Burlington Parks and Recreation.