

Historical Buildings and Sites Commission
MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2021
5:15 pm Council Chambers

COMMISSIONERS:

Ward Warren (Chair)
Arden McConnell (Vice Chair)
Virginia Ford
Shirley Holzinger
Bill Richardson
Nathan Miller
Sandra Crowder

STAFF/LIAISON MEMBERS:

Bradley Clark – Director Community Development
Donna Rupp – Associate Planner

STAFF/LIAISON MEMBERS:

Joel King

GUESTS: Lisa Woodruff, Logan Signs

1. **Roll Call** – Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. All present

2. **Introductions**

3. **Public Comment:** None.

4. **Approval of February Minutes:**

4.a. On top of page 3 in discussion about Conservation Design Overlay District, language was clarified regarding remodels, that the style should be consistent with the existing house.

6.f. The note regarding the patio at Climate City was changed to indicate that the inquiry was from a citizen.

Note: Commissioner Crowder was not sworn in at the February meeting, so she cannot vote on the minutes.

MOTION

Commissioner McConnell moved, and Commissioner Holzinger seconded the motion to approve the February 11, 2021 minutes, as amended. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”:
Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell, Commissioners Ford, Miller, Richardson and Holzinger. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: Crowder. Absent: None
The motion passed.

5. **Action Items:**

a. Lisa Woodruff – guest speaker from Logan’s Design. Lisa brought samples of signs made from composite vinyl to show that the use goes beyond vinyl banner signs hung by grommets. Many are solid and made to look like carved wooden signs. Vinyl lettering is used in many windows. She also brought samples of di-bond aluminum signs. Discussion on the proposed text amendments to Article 13 regarding the use of vinyl and other materials in signs.

Discussion about changing language to indicate preferred materials for signs and also make it clear that because a material is not preferred, does not mean it is prohibited. Non-preferred materials will require HBSC review. And try to be inclusive of other materials.

b. Brad clarified that if the HBSC wants to make changes to the Article 13 text amendment, they can forward comments to staff, come to the City Council meeting with suggested changes or work with Councilor Joel King to get the wording just right. Any of the above will work, but they cannot edit the existing text amendment after HBSC has voted on it and forwarded it to the Council for consideration.

Any public response to the mailings requested by Council on the text amendment will be brought to the April 8 meeting for the HBSC to review prior to be included in the Council's April 21 meeting packet.

c. Riverside Park National Register signage. Examples were reviewed and locations discussed. HBSC requested a map showing locations of proposed signs and mock-ups for the next meeting.

6. Matters from Commission Members and Staff:

a. Conservation District Overlay – Discussion of overlay to protect character of neighborhoods in discussed area. The idea is rather than building a structure that is totally out of character with the entire neighborhoods, that they would have some guidelines that staff would be able to give them. They could choose from a variety of designs that they would see right there at the Planning Department counter. Chair Warren suggested the following styles:

- Tudor
- Victorian
- American Colonial
- Art Deco
- Craftsman
- Spanish Modern/Revival
- Mid-Century Modern
- 1940's Bungalow (added by staff)

Work needs to be done to define each style in a clear and objective way, with photos. Discussion about what clear and objective means. Brad had discussion with Planning Commission about clear and objective standards. Chair Warren wants to keep it simple and believes that just a few bullet points and photos will work. Councilor King brought possibility of a lawsuit if what homeowner wants does not fit the proposed styles listed above. To be clear and objective the HBSC cannot have the ability to have a hearing – there is no subjective alternative like a hearing available to the homeowner.

If the district is created as a historic resource, would that address the issue? Brad will look into it. Commissioner Miller suggested getting language from other jurisdictions that address this with clear and objective standards. Staff will look into it.

b. Plaques for Local Landmarks - Donna brought list of those already installed. Chair Warren asked to have the discussion moved to the next meeting.

c. County Courthouse – Brad updated HBSC that over the last 6 months the City manager has not received any updates from the County Commissioners on plans to remodel the courthouse. HBSC would like to investigate having the courthouse designated as a national landmark.

- d. L Street Forest Service Compound (National Registry Property) – recently covered in the newspaper.
- e. Climate City patio addition – because of Covid restrictions and restaurants having a difficult time staying in business, the City is not being proactive on these kinds of complaints. The building inspector has inspected it. The building owners are being notified that they will have to come into compliance in the future.
- f. GP Water treatment plant – it is a significant building and HBSC would like to be kept informed of future plans when it is vacated.
- g. OTHER NOT ON AGENDA
 - Indian marathon sign marker – JoCo Historical society and Clampers would like to move forward with this marker as discussed last year. They wanted to place it on the bridge by the Redwood Empire sign, but that would be in the state right of way. Donna suggested Riverside Park. Chair Warren suggested downtown by welcome center as was discussed and agreed upon at past HBSC Meetings. Open for further discussion.

7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting:

- a. Conservation District Design Overlay
- b. Riverside Park sign plan
- c. Plaques – List of existing
- d. County Courthouse
- e. L Street Forest Service Compound (National Registry Property)
- f. Indian marathon sign marker

8. Adjourn: 7:16 pm

Next Meeting: April 8, 2021

Summary minutes prepared by Donna Rupp, Associate Planner, Grants Pass Community Development.