

Historical Buildings and Sites Commission
MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 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:

Terry Hopkins, Steam Distillery
Michael Blair, Steam Distillery
Scott Davis, Steam Distillery
Michael McDonald, Sign Designer

1. **Roll Call** – Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.
2. **Introductions**
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Approval of June Minutes:**

MOTION

Commissioner McConnell moved, and Commissioner seconded Holzinger the motion to approve the June 10, 2021 minutes. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell, Commissioners Ford, Miller, Richardson, and Holzinger. “NAYS”: None. Abstain: Commissioner Crowder. Absent: None. The motion passed.

5. **Guest Presentation:** Jason Canady not present. Designs for Welcome Center contained in packet discussed by Commissioners. Opinions expressed by HBSC included that the log and “rustic” looks did not provide for continuity with the mostly brick historic buildings. Sketch #4 had the most favorable review, with #3 also being a possibility. It was noted that the sign should say “Welcome Center” not “Visitors Center”. HBSC also proposed having the design resemble the Ben Franklin Bank architectural style, as that is what was located in the structure prior to becoming the Welcome Center.
6. **Action Items:**
 - a. Edson Café hearing – 303-00111-21 continued to August at request of applicant.
 - b. Steam Distillery Sign Review Hearing - 303-00113-21. Presentation by staff reviewing staff report and items contained in the meeting packet. Terry Hopkins from Steam Distillery addressed the commission, as did the sign designer Michael McDonald. A local welder will be used to fabricate the sign. Commissioners were impressed with sign design and the owner’s efforts to make it compatible with the historic structure.

MOTION

Chair Warren moved, and Commissioner Miller seconded the motion to approve the Steam Distillery sign. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell,

**Commissioners Ford, Miller, Richardson, Crowder and Holzinger. “NAYS”: None.
Abstain: None. Absent: None.
The motion passed.**

c. Caveman Bridge Local Landmark Application Hearing. Presentation by staff reviewing report and items contained in meeting packet.

MOTION

**Chair Warren moved, and Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion to approve the request to submit to the City Council that the Caveman Bridge be designated as a local historic landmark. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Chair Warren, Vice Chair McConnell, Commissioners Ford, Miller, Richardson, Crowder and Holzinger. “NAYS”: None.
Abstain: None. Absent: None.
The motion passed.**

The application for Local Historic Landmark for Riverside Park will be on the August agenda. Once HBSC recommends it for approval, both Caveman Bridge and Riverside Park nominations will go to the City Council at the same time.

7. Matters from Commission Members and Staff:

a. CLG Application update. Donna Rupp submitted application packet to Kuri Gill at SHPO in Salem on July 1 and provided a copy of the packet to Chair Warren.

b. Indian marathon marker. A dedication will be held Wed. July 21 at 10 am at the Welcome Center. Chair Warren requested some refreshments and help with public relations.

c. County Courthouse and GP Water Treatment Plant – follow up by Chair. County has backed down on demolition idea for the courthouse. Would like to talk to Jason Canady regarding historic status of the Water Treatment Plant.

d. Historic District Signs on I-5 and Redwood Hwy. ODOT came back and said we cannot have a second sign for the Historic District on I-5 at Exit 55 because there is already one at Exit 58. Signs are available on lesser highways (199, 238 & 99) at varying annual rates. The City would also have to pay for the signs themselves and the installation. Donna will send Chair and Vice Chair the rates. Brad believes there should be some budget available for this but will have to check.

(e) Conservation District Design Overlay for Lawnridge/Washington neighborhood. Donna did some research and spoke to a Planner for Portland who handles their historic districts. There has not been time to write it up for HBSC.

(f) Signs at Riverside Park will be installed after the designation as a Local Historic Landmark.

(g) Protection of National Register Sites – Discussion about the “Reed House” at Riverside Park and how it is in need of maintenance. Chair Warren requested that Director Clark bring back a motion for a policy change to allow HBSC to review any changes to sites.

(h) Applications for “Volunteers of the Year” were distributed to HBSC by Donna in case any one wanted to make nominations.

7. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting:

- a. Continued hearing for Edson cafe, unless delay requested by applicant
- b. Riverside Park local landmark hearing
- c. Conservation District Design Overlay
- d. Welcome Center & Water Treatment Plant – Jason Canady
- e. Protection of National Register Sites

8. Adjourn: 6:42 pm

Next Meeting: August 12, 2021

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