

Cordova Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes – Thursday, April 13, 2017

Members present: Jim Casement, Brooke Johnson, Sylvia Lange, Tom McGann, and John Wachtel, via teleconference. Absent: Heather Hall and Cathy Sherman.

Others present: Volunteer staff support Nancy Bird.

The meeting was called to order just after 5 p.m. by Chair Jim Casement.

Approval of agenda Motion to approve the agenda was presented by T. McGann, Seconded by B. Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of minutes Motion to approve minutes of Jan. 5, 2017 by McGann, Seconded by S. Lange. Motion passed without objection.

Review of plans and timelines for CLG 2016 grants

- a. Red Dragon Historic District signage and education materials: N. Bird reported that this project is behind schedule, but she will submit the first quarter report due by April 30. Commission members will be sent copies of this report. Bird expects to “catch up” and complete the project on schedule.
- b. Copper River Highway milepost guide: C. Sherman is leading this project. Both B. Johnson and S. Lange volunteered to help in editing a draft of the guide.

Review and recommend proposed amendments to Cordova City Code, Chapter 18.90

Commission reviewed email exchange between N. Bird and Summer Louthan, an architectural historian from the State’s Historic Office (Jan. 7 and 9, 2017) regarding requirements and recommendations for the ordinance to ensure the city be recognized as a Certified Local Government. Bird said the “second draft” of the proposed amendments incorporates Louthan’s advice.

Discussion ensued. It was noted that the Historic District in Cordova was first established in 1985 when the city limits were much smaller. Consensus reached to review the ordinances as adopted in 1985, 1992 and 1995 for comparison with the current proposed amendments.

Historic building surveys

Brief discussion about how the Commission might accomplish an updated survey of historic buildings. H. Hall has suggested that a recent survey completed by the community of Hope, Alaska, might serve as a good template for Cordova.

Correspondence / other materials of interest

The 2016 Annual Certified Local Government Report for Cordova was included in the packet; it was submitted timely in March to the state historic office.

Next meeting date Tentatively, the third Thursday of September was targeted for the next meeting. N. Bird said she would send Commission members a Doodle poll in late August to confirm that tentative date.

Closing comments – from the public or Commission members

Question was asked about whether new applications for CLG grants can be submitted later this year. N. Bird thinks the total funds available for these grants have already been committed but will double-check with the state historic office.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by T. McGann, Seconded by B. Johnson

These minutes were approved November 6, 2017.