

## **Port Orford Historic Preservation Commission**

Minutes of Meeting - Friday, March 31, 2023

**Commissioners Present:** Rick Cook (Chair), Steve Roemen, Maurisa Markstein, Beverly Bacak

**Guest:** Joyce Spicer (HPC Commissioner application pending)

Meeting called to order by Chair Cook at 9:33 am.

1. HPC Commissioners voted unanimously to approve minutes of the February 24, 2023 HPC Meeting with one correction. Under Agenda Item #4, Selene Relatos was misidentified as being part of the Coquille Tribal Council. She is on the Siletz Tribal Council.

2. Old Business: Lindberg House Update

Commissioners reviewed a memo drafted by Chair Cook to the Port Orford City Council and Mayor Cox regarding the possibility of salvaging historically important architectural items during the demolition of the Lindberg House. Motion by Commissioner Bacak to send the memo. Second by Commissioner Roemen. Unanimous vote to approve the motion.

3. Port Orford Historic Resource Survey

Commissioners discussed redoing and updating the 1984 Port Orford "Historic Resource Catalog" as part of the process of developing the official Historic Resource Survey (a Reconnaissance Survey assisted by SHPO).

Commissioners agreed to begin with the historic resources within the City limits and then work outward. This updated catalog will serve as comprehensive data identifying the historic resources to be included in the official Reconnaissance Survey and subsequent Port Orford Historic Resource Survey (following SHPO Guidelines and Port Orford Ordinance).

During this process one requirement is outreach to the community at large to engage the public in this process of developing and maintaining a Historic Resource Survey. Commissioners discussed a future special public meeting in Council chambers with a Power Point presentation of the survey, how it will be conducted, and soliciting public participation.

At the April 28, 2023 HPC meeting, each Commissioner will present their 3 favorite historic structures and/or sites in Port Orford. Out of this list, the Commissioners will develop part of the Power Point presentation.

Ancillary issue: Chair Cook will ensure that he is listed as the contact between SHPO and the City of Port Orford. This information has not been updated since a change in the chair of HPC.

4. Battle Rock Sign - Chair Cook has been in communication with Selene Relatos with the Siletz Tribal Council. She affirms that she will talk with the Council regarding this window of opportunity for updating the interpretive signage at Battle Rock Park, since the current sign is in serious disrepair.

Chair Cook has also contacted the Chief of the Coquille, and is awaiting a reply from Brenda Meade, Chair of the Coquille Tribal Council. Initial contact has met with interest. Chair Cook reported that Tribal Cultural Historian Cassandra Rippee has left that position and has not yet been replaced.

Chair Cook shared a memo he sent to Bryan Thompson, Chair of the Park Commission regarding the serious disrepair of the Battle Rock sign. The memo included a brief history of the two versions of signs that have been placed at the site over the years, along with suggestions of how the need to repair/replace the current sign is an opportunity to update the interpretive materials, specific suggestions for an updated narrative, and the information that HPC is in contact with both Siletz Tribal Council and the Chief of the Coquille Chair. Cook encouraged the Parks Commission to work together with HPC on this issue.

5. New Business: Commissioners reviewed the status of Title 17.15 of the Port Orford Municipal Ordinance and confirmed that the ordinance was updated at the time the City Council voted to approve the removal of the Historic Preservation Commission as a subcommittee of the Planning Commission, and establishing HPC as a freestanding Commission identical to Planning and Parks Commissions.

Commissioner Markstein reported that the City Council did a first and second reading of the updated ordinance at the 3/24/22 and 4/21/22 City Council meetings and subsequently voted to approve the update.

6. Announcements, additional items:

Commissioner Markstein related that the library as extra copies books of local historical interest and is willing to give them away. Commissioner Markstein agrees to collect these books as they become available from the library. Commissioners discuss presenting these books during the public presentation for the Historic Survey, potentially giving them away.

Commissioner Markstein also reported that the Port of Port Orford has a collection of historic documents, including maps, which were used during discussions between the Port, the City of Port Orford and the Coquille Tribe, regarding the ownership of Battle Rock (the actual rock itself). This protracted discussion arose during efforts to restore the small graveyard on Battle Rock.

Commissioners discussed having all future HPC meetings in City Council Chambers to match where the meetings of the other commissions occur. Chair Cook will work with the City to have chambers available for HPC beginning with the April 28, 2023 meeting.

7. Meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.

Minutes presented for approval: April 26, 2023 by Commission Secretary, Beverly Bacak.