

Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 6:00 PM

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was called to order by Acting Chair, David Harsh, at 6:01 PM at Town Hall.

Acting Chair, David Harsh called the roll.

Board Members present: Acting Chair; David Harsh, Margie Martin, Mike Vouri, Jeff Iverson, and Stephen Revella.

Also present: Jenny Atkinson, Director of The Whale Museum; Sandy Strehlou, HPRB Coordinator; and Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary.

Minutes

The HP board approved HPRB minutes for July 22.

Design Review: The Whale Museum Mural

HPRB Coordinator Sandy Strehlou introduced the review noting that the board will be reviewing The Whale Museum mural proposal according to the version of the TFH mural ordinance that was current when The Whale Museum's proposal was submitted. The board's findings will then go with The Whale Museum's application to the Town's Land Use Administrator.

Ms. Atkinson addressed the board. She spoke to The Whale Museum's desire to be a good neighbor and community member. She suggested that the proposed mural would both protect one side of the structure and save the museum funds because the work and expense of stripping and repainting the side of the building for the mural has been volunteered.

Board chair David Harsh explained that when stripping paint from a building of the Whale Museum's age it is very likely there will be lead paint and it should be tested. To comply with federal law will require proceeding with appropriate safety measures.

The board proceeded to review the proposal using a checklist taken from the applicable content of the relevant version of TFH mural ordinance.

Relevant Provision of Ordinance 1569

14.08.010 Purpose

Does the proposal preserve the “distinct historic character and small town quality” of Friday Harbor?

No – 4, Yes – 1. Comments: Neither murals nor whale imagery relate to TFH’s historic character.

Does the proposed mural “provide reasonable protection to the visual environment”?

No – 4, Yes – 1. Comments: Large size of proposal detracts from historic streetscape.

14.08.050 Approval Criteria and Maintenance Requirements

(A) The mural must enhance the aesthetic experience within the Town through scale, color, material, and texture.

No – 4, Yes – 1. Comments: Does not belong of historic building. Due to scale does not enhance streetscape.

(B) The mural must portray natural environment, historical, geographical or cultural features of the Town or the proposed

No – 3, Yes – 2. Comments: Does not portray cultural or historical features of TFH. Does portray natural environment.

(C) The mural must be compatible with the existing architecture of the proposed site.

No – 5. Comments: Not appropriate on historic building.

(D) The wall surface proposed for the mural must be suitable to receive the proposed materials and materials must be appropriate for long-term use on the wall surface.

Yes – 5. Comments: With appropriate safety measures regarding lead paint.

(E) The mural shall remain in place, without alteration for a minimum period of two years.

Yes – 5.

(F) The owner may request [and be granted by the land use administrator] to remove the mural prior to the expiration of the two-year period, upon written request and under specific circumstances including but not limited to: sale of property; significant remodel affecting the area of the mural; change of use; continued maintenance is not feasible.

Yes – 5.

(G) Murals shall not contain logos, slogans or advertising messages.

Yes – 5.

(H) No part of the mural shall exceed the height of the structure.

Yes – 5.

(I) No part of the mural shall extend more than six inches from the plane of the wall upon which it is located.

Yes – 5.

(J) No part of the mural may consist of, or contain, electrical or mechanical components, or changing images, moving elements, or flashing lights. The mural may be lit with static illuminations turned off and back on not more than once every 24 hours.

Yes – 5.

(K) The mural shall not be placed on a lot that is improved with only one single- family residential structure and accessory structures.

Yes – 5.

(L) No mural shall be illuminated in such a manner that will produce light intensity of greater than three foot candles above ambient lighting as measured at the property line of the nearest residentially zoned property.

Yes – 5.

Following the review Ms. Atkinson departed.

Town Council Revised Mural Ordinance

Coordinator Strehlou spoke to the Board regarding Town Council's recent meeting where she presented the HPRB recommendations for changes to the mural ordinance.

The Council moved to require reviews for all murals within the historic district including those 8 X 4 feet and smaller.

Strehlou suggested that the Board discuss internal policies based on the intent of the HP guidelines. She also noted that while the Board cannot stop Town Council from making decisions contrary to preservation considerations, It is important to identify potential non-compliance issues to that the Council can make informed decisions.

Administrative Review

Coordinator Strehlou reported she and acting chair David Harsh agreed to an administratively review the proposed Cask and Schooner project. The proposal is to enclose their garbage area using similar materials as the building's existing cladding.

Next Meeting and Chair Rotation

The second August 2015 meeting is cancelled. The next HPRB meeting will be September 9. Jeff Iverson will serve as chair.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm

David Harsh, Acting Chair

Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary