

Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting Wednesday, November 9, 2016 6:00 PM

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board, in the absence of acting chair Jeff Iverson, roll was called by HPRB Coordinator Sandy Strehlou at 6:05 PM at Town Hall.

Board Members present: David Harsh, Mike Vouri, Margie Martin, and Francine Shaw. Absent: Jeff Iverson

Also present: Sandy Strehlou, HPRB Coordinator; and Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of September 28th were approved.

By Laws Review and Update

The board reviewed the document *Rules of Procedure Friday Harbor Historic Preservation Review Board*. A motion was passed to make sure the title of the Historic Preservation Review Board is correct. Coordinator Strehlou will check.

Board member Francine Shaw suggested clarifying the board's purpose. Board member David Harsh asked if recruitment to fill vacancies should be included.

It was suggested that information contained in the TFH ordinances relating to historic preservation may not need to be repeated in these, Rules of Procedure or By-Laws.

It was suggested that as a point under VIII. Agenda, #3 "*Communications from the Town and citizens*" be changed to "*public comment*".

HPRB Coordinator Sandy Strehlou will rewrite the document and bring it back to the board at the December 14, 2016 HPRB meeting.

Discussion of Possible New Incentives

At this time the HPRB program is very close to receiving approval as a CLG (Certified Local Government). Updated By-Laws and board resumes are part of this effort. The HPRB has been working toward this goal for a long time.

Some of the advantages of becoming a CLG are belonging to a state and federal standardized system. As a CLG the HPRB will be able to offer applicants incentives such as a special tax valuation, technical assistance, and trainings.

Other possible incentives are building code accommodations providing public safety requirements are met and sign ordinance providing a benefit to property owners who face unique signage challenges.

Coordinator Strehlou provided the board with research done by previous board members regarding the way other communities have benefited by special tax valuation. She requested board members take home to review to discuss later.

Landmarking Program Documents Review

The HPRB Landmarking program has been adopted by FH Town Council but has not been implemented yet. The program is voluntary. When landmarked, if changes are made to a property, a mandatory design review will be required.

To initiate the program the HPRB will create information packets for prospective property owners about the Landmarking program. Coordinator Strehlou requested board members review an informative document to be included in the packet.

Certain properties have previously been identified by the HPRB as possible Landmarks. These including Town Hall and Memorial Park, both properties belonging to the TFH.

To become a Landmark, a property must meet certain required criteria including being at least 50 years old. Cultural significance and/or association with significant persons or events are also qualifying criteria.

Coordinator Strehlou suggested that she would like to launch the Landmarking program after the first of the year.

There was some discussion regarding identifying “cultural landscapes”. The same criteria that applies to structures also applies to landscapes. Strehlou identified the dry rock wall on Warbass as an example.

Partners in Preservation

Coordinator Strehlou gave the board a “head’s up” to begin thinking about next year’s likely candidates for the Partners in Preservation award.

Mural Ordinance Update/ Thanksgiving

The board will meet for a work session on the mural ordinance on Wednesday November 16th at 6:00.

There will be no second meeting this month due to Thanksgiving holidays.

Meeting adjourned 7:45

Sandy Strehlou, Acting Chair in Jeff
Iverson's absence

Peggy Sue McRae, Recording Secretary