

**CITY OF EDMONDS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
SUMMARY MINUTES**

March 8, 2012

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Vogel called the meeting of the Edmonds Historic Preservation Commission to order at 5:30 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 121 – 5th Avenue North. He read the Commission's mission statement.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Larry Vogel, Chair
Fred Bell
Christine Deiner-Karr
Andy Eccleshall (left at 6:06 p.m.)
Meg Keogh
Bill Muller
Eric Norenberg
Gerry Tays (left at 6:30 p.m.)
Steve Waite
Laura Petso, City Council Member

STAFF PRESENT

Rob Chave, Development Services Director
Diane Cunningham, Administrative Assistant

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

John Dewhirst, Vice Chair (excused)
Tim Raetzloff (excused)
Michael Plunkett, City Council Member

READING/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COMMISSIONER NORENBURG MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2012 AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER DEINER-KARR SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

The agenda was amended to add a discussion about the Cultural Heritage Tour and the Edmonds Business Expo. The remainder of the agenda was accepted as presented.

Commissioner Tays shared a recent discussion he had with Jeff Vaughan, Operations Manager of the Edmonds Center for the Arts. He suggested that perhaps their reluctance to place the property on the Edmonds Register of Historic Places is caused by their lack of understanding about what would and would not be required. He recommended the Commission meet, once again, with representatives from the Edmonds Center for the Arts to correct misinformation.

REQUESTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no one in the audience.

CULTURAL HERITAGE WALKING TOUR

Commissioner Eccleshall reported that under the direction of Frances Chapin, Cultural Services Manager, the Edmonds Arts Commission is in the process of creating a Cultural Heritage Walking Tour Brochure. Ms. Chapin has requested the Commission provide a list of historic sites that are best suited for inclusion in the brochure. The Commission discussed a

number of potential historic sites, and Commissioner Eccleshall agreed to email the list of potential sites to each Commissioner. He further agreed to compile a final list of sites for Ms. Chapin based on the feedback he receives from the Commissioners. They agreed it would be appropriate to recommend that Ms. Chapin contact the owners of property that will be included in the brochure.

EDMONDS BUSINESS EXPO

Commissioner Eccleshall announced that the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring an Edmonds Business Expo on March 24th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Edmonds Conference Center. Local service businesses have been invited to participate in the event, which will be open to the public free of charge. Various non-profit organizations have also expressed an interest in participating in the event, and he suggested the Commission should participate, as well.

The Commission agreed to participate in the event to provide information about the benefits of and process for placing properties on the Edmonds Register of Historic Place. Commissioner Keogh agreed to prepare a schedule for Commission assignments and set up the table with appropriate information. She also agreed to prepare a handout to answer questions and provide information about the Historic Preservation Commission and the Edmonds Register of Historic Places. The Commissioners offered their own funds to cover the \$75 participation fee.

The Commission discussed potential options for raising funds to support their future efforts. Council Member Petso agreed to research options and report back to the Commission at their next meeting. Mr. Chave reminded the Commission that, years ago, they solicited donations from property owners throughout the City. Some of this money may still be available in the City's general fund, and they could request that it be reallocated into the Commission's budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Registration Committee

Commissioner Deiner-Karr reported that she is working to prepare nominations for two homes, one on 3rd Avenue and another on 7th Avenue.

Education and Outreach Committee

Chair Vogel recalled that the Commission previously agreed that the next edition of *THE PRESERVATIONIST* should feature Robinhood Lanes. Commissioner Norenberg reported on his efforts to learn more about the history of the site and obtain photographs. Commissioner Deiner-Karr suggested the Commission ask *THE ENTERPRISE* and *THE EDMONDS BEACON* to publish a request for citizens to provide historic pictures of the site. The Commission agreed that if the necessary information regarding Robinhood Lanes cannot be obtained soon, the next edition of *THE PRESERVATIONIST* should feature Native American history, instead.

Chair Vogel announced that (Emma) Jane Yost Sorenson passed away this past week. He had intended to interview her for information about Edmonds' history, but he missed the opportunity. Commissioner Deiner-Karr suggested he contact the Edmonds High School group to see if they completed a living history for Ms. Sorenson.

Preservation Planning Committee

The Preservation Planning Committee's report was discussed later in the meeting as part of the Commission's review of goals and objectives and the 2012 Strategic Plan.

OTHER REPORTS

Edmonds South Snohomish County Historical Society

Commissioner Bell reminded the Commission of the Edmonds South Snohomish County Historical Society's recent offer to purchase plaques for historic properties if the City would agree to install them. Mr. Chave suggested that Mr. Bell contact Jim Stevens, the City's current Facilities Manager, to discuss installations on public property. However, installations on private property would likely require City Council approval. Commissioner Bell agreed to provide additional information for the Commission's continued discussion at the next meeting.

Commissioner Bell suggested that the 100th anniversary of the Edmonds Police Department may be an appropriate event to feature in an upcoming edition of *THE PRESERVATIONIST*. The Commission agreed to consider this option, particularly noting the police department's historic locations. Commissioner Bell announced that a special exhibit regarding the police department will be on display at the Museum starting in approximately October. He agreed to research and provide copy for a potential future story.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was scheduled on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business on the agenda.

ACTION ITEMS

Review Goals and Objectives/Strategic Plan for 2012

Mr. Chave said the Strategic Plan has been an important document when soliciting state grant funding. Grant applications typically ask how a proposed project fits with future goals and plans. He suggested the Commission identify future projects for which grant funding might be available.

The Commission discussed options for funding future projects. Mr. Chave agreed to ask the Finance Department to prepare a memorandum outlining the fundraising options available to the Commission, as a City entity.

The Commission shared some of their thoughts about how the Strategic Plan and Goals and Objectives should be updated. Commissioner Deiner-Karr (Registration Committee), Chair Vogel (Education and Outreach Committee) and Commissioner Waite (Preservation and Planning Committee) agreed to prepare draft updates for their respective sections and forward the changes to staff by March 16th. Staff would compile the changes and forward an updated document to the entire Commission for additional comments. Staff would also invite Commissioners to indicate their preference for committee assignments.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Vogel said he is glad the Commission is considering revisions and updates to the Strategic Plan. He also thanked Council Member Petso for attending the meeting as a City Council representative.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Council Member Petso said that, each month, City Council Members are invited to provide brief reports on the outside meetings they have attended. She invited the Commissioners to inform her of items they would specifically like her to report on. Commissioner Keogh agreed to provide a written announcement regarding the Commission's participation in the Edmonds Business Expo.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.