



# Cowlitz County Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Summary  
Thursday, February 9, 2023

**10:00 am:** Chair Harvey Williamson called the meeting to order.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Vice-Chair Butch Ogden  
Erin Thoeny  
Chair – Harvey Williamson  
Bill Watson  
Joel Rupley

**COMMISSIONERS**

**ABSENT:**

Dr. David Rice

**STAFF PRESENT:** Adam Trimble – Senior Planner, Laura Gresstet Assistant Planner, Jennifer Adams, VSP, Lorraine Fuller, GIS Specialist

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**CHANGES TO AGENDA:** None.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The workshop minutes were approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**REPORTS:**

- (VSP) Voluntary Stewardship Program- Jennifer Adams reported to the group about her new role as the VSP Planner and a potential first project. A farm owner is working with Jennifer to fence and enhance a 2 acre wetland on farmland with support from VSP.
- HPC Staff (Adam)- Staff reported that we have not heard back from WSDOT about potentially installing the Cowlitz Trails signs at the Toutle rest stop. The commission had a discussion about the idea and directed staff to pursue any remaining CLG grant funds for that purpose. Erin Thoeny offered to reach out to the Port of Kalama with the same idea of having permanent interpretive panels made and installed at the Port park facilities.
- Tribal liaison: not present

**DISCUSSION: HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY SUB-COMMITTEE**

Staff asked the group if the research done to inventory the earliest buildings in the county should be shared with the DAHP online database WISAARD. The group discussed the idea and directed staff to get more information about how and what would be shared that is not already published on the County historic inventory map tool. Erin noted that while the outreach effort was clear that anyone could opt out (and a few have) it may not have been clear about what would happen with the inventory if they did not opt out. The group tabled the discussion to next meeting.

## **COWLITZ TRAILS PANEL INSTALLATION LOCATIONS**

- [discussed under reports]

## **2023 CLG GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

- Commissioners discussed ideas for a project that could be funded with a certified-local-government grant. Past projects included the Cowlitz Trails project and County Heritage Plan. Eligible projects include reconnaissance surveys of historic buildings, preservation plans, outreach and education efforts, plaques and markers, and support for conference registration.
  - The group discussed ideas such as producing historic inventories and nominations for the County's Granges. Jennifer Adams noted that VSP staff is available to support that effort and engage with the Granges. Butch Ogden noted that there are 6 Granges in the county. Harvey, echoing Joel Rupley's reminder that people and stories are a focus for the commission, suggested collecting oral histories as part of the effort. Erin Thoeny said a consultant conducting inventories could also educate about grant opportunities.
  - Other scope of work, in addition to the 6 granges could be to review the inventory work of the Commission and provide the architectural descriptions and technical information that might be missing. Butch Ogden was supportive of continuing with the inventory effort and producing nominations.
  - The group requested more information about eligible projects.
- The annual Revitalize WA conference is an allowable cost for CLG Grants. Funds can be used to register for the core conference. The conference will be in Vancouver, WA this year October 4-6.

More info: <https://dahp.wa.gov/clg-grants>

## **FINAL COMMENTS:**

Butch Ogden shared the next Grange association meeting is February 18 and Harvey is invited to present. (Adam has a conflict that day).

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was Adjourned at 11:20am