



# Cowlitz County Historic Preservation Commission

Cowlitz County Administration Building – Kelso, WA

Summary  
March 9, 2023

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

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Chair – Harvey Williamson  
Erin Thoeny      Joel Rupley  
Bill Watson—Cowlitz Museum  
Guests: Christy Tseu, Alicia Robinson

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

Dr. David Rice  
Butch Ogden

**STAFF PRESENT:** Adam Trimble – Historic Preservation Officer, Lorraine Fuller – GIS, Laura Gressett – Planner, Paul Galli – Public Works

**CHANGES TO AGENDA:** None. Agenda was accepted.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARIES:** Joel Rupley moved to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Erin Thoney. All in favor. February 2023 Minutes were approved.

**SHORT ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES:**

- HPC Staff (Adam) Noted that May is Historic Preservation Month. The group discussed ideas to celebrate the month and the HPC program. A suggestion to submit to the Columbia River Reader materials for an article on the Cowlitz Trails project was heard. Adam will send content to the Columbia River Reader that they can use in May. Also noted that Longview is celebrating 100 years, as is Ryderwood on July 29th.
  - Noted that there is a Home and Garden Show April 15-16. HPC materials for the Cowlitz Trails will be displayed. 2 people offered to attend the Home and Garden show in April and will bring the trifold flyers and the posters.
- (VSP) Voluntary Stewardship Program (Laura) noted that ongoing VSP training with soils. The team plans more field visits and will report back to HPC any farms with historical significance.
- Cowlitz Museum (Bill) shared about upcoming Thursday programs.
- Tribal liaison – none
- Public comment – Joel Rupley noted that we should publicize our work about the Granges and get more interest in the project.
- Christy Tseu – Recommended that the HP inventory be uploaded and added to the WISSARD database. Christy asked if other historic preservation groups have been successful with helping granges, Harvey will ask Butch about it.
- Bill Watson – Announced that Dr. Rice is very ill and in a hospital in Vancouver. Group would like to send a card. The group agreed to send Dr. Rice a card.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Historic Inventory- exporting to WISSARD Staff asked the group to re-consider whether to share the work done to inventory the County's earliest buildings with the state of Washington database for historic properties. After discussion the group tabled the idea and directed staff to consult with the

County attorney regarding whether the notice (postcard) and opt-out instructions were adequate or if more notice should be given before providing the inventory information to the State.

**Cowlitz Trails Interpretive Panels:** Erin Thoeny contacted the Port of Kalama on behalf of the commission to see if the Port would be interested in partnering to install the 4 'Cowlitz Trails' panels at on their property. She heard the Port would appreciate a letter detailing the proposal and idea so they can explore. It is possible CLG grant funds remain available to the County to purchase 4 panels. Adam will email an official request to Heidi Sullivan at the Port of Kalama to request putting panels up outdoors along the pathway, preferably near the cruise line dock. hsullivan@portofkalama.com. Harvey would like to see the request before it is sent.

**2024 CLG Grant:**

Regarding the grant opportunities the commissioners directed staff to prepare an application for 3 ideas:

- Hire a consultant for survey and inventory work for 6 Grange buildings and prepare nomination forms. Consultant should also help granges learn about grant options.
- Consultant will also add architectural information to our existing inventory of about 150 properties.
- Admissions fees to send 3 commissioners to the RevitalizeWA conference in Vancouver WA this fall.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Williamson adjourned the meeting.

The next Historic Preservation Commission meeting is scheduled for **April 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM**