



Cowlitz County Historic Preservation Commission

Cowlitz County Administration Building – Kelso, WA

Summary
May 18, 2023

10:05 am: ROLL CALL: Chair Williamson called the meeting to order.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chair – Harvey Williamson
Erin Thoeny Joel Rupley
Bill Watson—Cowlitz Museum

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Vice Chair- Butch Ogden
Dr. David Rice

Guests: James Gordon, Cowlitz Tribe

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Trimble – Historic Preservation Officer, Paul Galli – County Surveyor, Public Works, Rachel Hutchins – Planning Administrative Assistant

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARIES: The minutes of the March 9, 2023 minutes were shared during the meeting but approval is tabled until June.

SHORT ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES:

Erin: Woodland Historical Society Museum fund-raiser bingo night is June 16th.

Joel: Update on Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP). County commissioners are contracting it out to the conservation district.

Harvey: Acknowledged the article ran in the May edition of Columbia River Reader about the Cowlitz Trails Project.

Reports from Staff:

- Outreach events: Adam asked group about upcoming summer outreach events and making plans to attend the Ryderwood 100 Year Celebration and Cowlitz County Fair. Bill pointed out that they are on the same weekend. 27th-29th of July. The group asked Adam to send out a list of dates to sign-up by email for various events.
- Reported on takeaways from recent Planning Association of Washington (PAW) conference Adam attended. State DAHP staff gave the example of Kurt Cobain’s childhood home being preserved in Aberdeen. There is support from the state to preserve places that are associated with important people and stories. Also heard the idea that RV parks/campgrounds or trailer courts could be part of a historic register and recognized for significance. Paul Galli added that Cowlitz County has numerous RV parks and campground that have stories and or have been re-built because of the Mt. St. Helens eruption (Harry Gardner Park) and subsequent temporary housing of people. Kamp Kalama was mentioned.

Bill: Waiting for the panels on City of Longview Centennial Display but will be ready soon. He mentioned he needs access to a video site: Me Video, an editing tool that he will use to make a new video display.

Tribal liaison – Harvey welcomed James Gordon from the Cowlitz Tribe to the meeting and invited him to share any information or reports he would like. Mr. Gordon will contribute as appropriate.

Public comment – None

AGENDA ITEMS:

Outreach and education ideas brainstorming

Harvey: Presented an idea to obtain relic farming implements and other tools to present to local high school shop classes for restoration and learning projects. Bill suggested having the kids make replicas instead of fixing historical pieces to avoid possible destruction. Erin suggested kids in FFA or 4-H to do the projects.

Cowlitz Trails Interpretive Panels: James Gordon shared the Tribe has panels at the Clark County I-5 rest stops in both directions. Adam suggested possibly working together to see if the Tribe would install panels and the Toutle rest stop. James Gordon also confirmed the Tribe did not want sensitive information shared on the Cowlitz Trails Panels.

2024 CLG Grant:

Adam reported that the grant was submitted. Waiting to hear back.

Final Comments:

Erin announced the Lelooska Totem Pole was returned to the Port of Kalama. Future plans to hang in their new building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Williamson adjourned the meeting at 10:51am.