



# Cowlitz County Historic Preservation Commission

Cowlitz County Administration Building – Kelso, WA

Summary  
April 13, 2023

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

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

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

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

Dr. David Rice

**Guests:** Christy Tseu, Mike Huntington

**STAFF PRESENT:** Adam Trimble – Historic Preservation Officer, Laura Gresset, Assistant Policy & Outreach Planner, Lorraine Fuller – GIS, Paul Galli – County Surveyor, Public Works

**CHANGES TO AGENDA:** Adam Trimble requested time for Harvey to present a little bit of his perspective on the future of the County and a role the HPC can play in it.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARIES:** The minutes of March 9, 2023 Minutes were approved.

**SHORT ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES:**

- The group heard a presentation from Harvey about his vision for the County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and how the group can lead, contribute and inspire residents to learn from the past and meet future challenges. Erin Thoeny added that the commission can be a facilitator and accomplish goals by bringing groups together like Granges and historical societies, cemetery districts and related. Staff will work on identifying partner organizations in the county. Butch Ogden brought up that Granges are organized as 50c1-4 and many grants require a 501c3 designation- the HPC could help granges connect with eligible applicants to partner with on grants.
- Adam Trimble shared that the HPC will have a booth at the Home and Garden show this week. Ideas to enhance interest were shared.
- Cowlitz Museum (Bill) shared the Longview Centennial exhibit is going up.
- Tribal liaison – none
- Public comment –
  - Christy Tseu and Mike Huntington were in attendance and Mr. Huntington shared about Huntington Villa row houses in Longview (area is still in Cowlitz County Jurisdiction. Several homes were moved to a property off 46<sup>th</sup> Ave and remain a representation of the small homes built for the first residents of the City while infrastructure was still being installed. Many of these homes were converted into garages, some were moved and most were lost.
  - Harvey Williamson reported that Dr. Rice is now in a care facility in Camas after having very serious health problems.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Historic Inventory- exporting to WISSARD Chair Harvey Williamson noted that if the HPC has created better records of properties it is in our interest to correct the record in the state database of historic properties. The group remained conflicted over whether to share the inventory information. Staff mentioned that more outreach could be beneficial and that our grant application, if successful will help add more information to the inventories so waiting is appropriate. The matter was tabled.

**Cowlitz Trails Interpretive Panels:** Staff reported meeting with Port of Kalama staff and hearing that they would likely not be interested in hosting the panels as the port carefully curates their public spaces and information. The pamphlets are more than welcome. Staff mentioned that WSDOT questioned the lack of discussion or focus on native history in the Cowlitz Trails panels- Bill Watson shared that while the Cowlitz Tribe representatives participated in the project they ultimately requested that their information be removed and did not want it shared. Lorraine mentioned that all the materials need a QR code to direct viewers to the multi-media website. Erin Thoeny suggested the Woodland Visitor Center for a location for panels.

**2024 CLG Grant;**

Regarding the grant opportunities the commissioners previously 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.

Erin Thoeny suggested upping the request amount as it seemed low. The group agreed \$15,000 is a better request.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Williamson adjourned the meeting at 11:23.