

ASHLAND HISTORIC COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2016

Community Development/Engineering Services Building – 51 Winburn Way – Siskiyou Room

CALL TO ORDER:

Commission Chair, Shostrom called the meeting to order at 6:01pm in the Siskiyou Room at the Community Development and Engineering Offices located at 51 Winburn Way, Ashland OR 97520.

Commissioners Present:	Council Liaison:
Shostrom	Carol Voisin
Skibby	
Leonard	Staff Present:
Whitford	Mark Schexnayder; Staff Liaison
Emery	Regan Trapp; Secretary
Swink	
Von Chamier	
Commissioners Absent:	Giordano

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Swink motioned to approve minutes from October 5, 2016. Leonard seconded. Voice vote; All AYES. Motion passed

PUBLIC FORUM:

There was no one in the audience wishing to speak.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Voisin gave the Council Liaison report. Items discussed were:

- The City Hall discussion is coming back to City Council meeting on Dec 20th. Voisin stated that she will ask if this discussion can be moved to a later date.
- The Schaeffer case has been settled.
- The removal of trees at Lithia Way/Pioneer moved to Dec 20th meeting.
- Council will review removing public art from Chapter 18 on Nov 15th at 7PM. Historic Commission is encouraged to come.
- Winter shelter for the homeless has been approved for Tue/Thurs evenings (Pioneer Hall) and Sunday may be added as well.
- Council considered and passed a motion to purchase land necessary for the Washington Street extension. It's been offered at \$60,000 over the appraised value and would cost \$331,000. This is an 800 foot street that comes out on Tolman Creek Rd and will come to a cost of about 2 million dollars. Council wanted to rush this through without public notice as they don't want the property owner to change their mind.
- Electricity will increase 7% for rates and 1.50 for the base charge to eventually reach 14.00. This is called cost of service for the operations of the electric department and the Council will have to vote on this.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Continued discussion of proposed ordinance amendments for public art installations on historic contributing buildings.

Shostrom gave a brief history on the relationship of the PAC and the Historic Commission and what has happened in the past year.

The Historic Commission (HC) had a lengthy discussion which included many positive comments including 1) appreciation that the draft ordinance include HC review both early (call for artists) and later in the public art process (public art concepts) for proposals in the historic districts, 2) that Section f reflects suggestion 4 of Mayor's Report to City Council dated April 17, 2016 "When concepts for public art in or near a historic district are being considered for final approval HC written input should be requested by the PAC and linked to online representations of the concepts.", and 3) appreciation of the adjustments made to date in the Earthly Goods corridor public art process including the Public Arts Commission Chair presenting the RFP and the opportunity for the HC to review and comment on the RFP

Draft AMC 2.29.165

- **Section A: Call for artists** (call for entries, RFQ, RFP) – use language in suggestion 1 of Mayor's Report to City Council dated April 17, 2016 "Have the PAC appear before the HC when an RFQ for new public art is being created and seek HC input for that RFQ." Thus, include HC review for call for artist to all public art in historic districts rather than limiting to listed or contributing structures.
- **Sections B - E** – change to public art installations on structures in historic districts permitted on noncontributing structures using process and standards outlined in sections B thru E. Prohibit public art installations on individually listed or historic contributing structures.
 - The HC concern is that painting or attaching public art to a historic contributing building permanently alters the building materials, structure and/or architectural features. Additionally, the HC discussed that public art, like buildings, can be in place for long periods of time and therefore a change to a historic contributing structure can last a generation or more. Cities in Oregon such as Portland, Salem and Milwaukie prohibit public art installations on historic contributing buildings to address potential damage to buildings, changes to architectural features, and broader concerns regarding degree of change in nature or character of the historic districts as a whole.
- **B.3** – allow historic murals to be restored, "Historically significant murals (including historic advertisements) **may be professionally restored** but shall not be painted over, even if faded.
- **Section C**
 - **Item 1: Scale** – replace with criteria from AMC 2.29.130.B.6 – "Public art should not be placed in a site where it is overwhelmed or competing with the scale of the site, adjacent architecture, large signage, bill boards, etc."
 - **Items 5-7** – move items 5-7 to section B.
- **Section E** - increase notice are to 300 feet of the perimeter of the subject site.
- **Section F**
 - **Public art concepts** (public art proposals) – Add "Commission recommendations to the Public Art Commission shall be provided with 45 days of delivery of the artists concepts to the Commission."

Other

Historic Commission Powers and Duties – Add review of public art to list of items the Historic Commission reviews (2.24.040) Clarify that public art sited or installed on structures includes murals and pieces affixed to a structure.

There was a straw vote (4-3 to not allow public art installations on any buildings in historic district)

- The following Commissioners were in favor:
 - Shostrom, Skibby, Leonard, and Swink.
- The following Commissioners were against:
 - Whitford, Von Chamier, and Emery.

5-2 only allow public art installations on noncontributing buildings.

- The following Commissioners were in favor:
 - Shostrom, Swink, Emery, Von Chamier, and Whitford.
- The following Commissioners were against:
 - Skibby and Leonard.

Ms. Harris interjected and let the Commission know that in the Downtown Historic District 28% of the buildings are noncontributing and 72% are contributing (section B-E). There were some questions from Leonard about increasing the noticing area to 300 feet (Section E). Ms. Harris explained that 200 feet would be consistent with land use application notices.

NEW ITEMS:

- Review board schedule – Commission adjourned before this item could get done. Trapp will send the schedule through email.
- Project assignments for planning actions – This item did not get taken care of and will be pushed to the next meeting.
- Historic Preservation Week: May 14th – 20th 2017 was the date decided for this event.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business to discuss.

COMMISSION ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA:

There were no items to discuss.

Review Board Schedule

Nov 3rd	Terry, Keith, Bill
Nov 10th	Terry, Taylor, Sam
Nov 17th	Terry, Taylor, Sam
Weds Nov 23rd	Terry
December 1st	Terry, Bill, Piper
December 8th	Terry, Bill, Keith

Project Assignments for Planning Actions

PA-2014-01956	Lithia & First	All
PA-2014-00710/711	143/135 Nutley	Swink & Whitford
PA-2014-01283	172 Skidmore	Shostrom
PA-2014-02206	485 A Street	NEED ASSIGNED
PA-2015-00178	156 Van Ness Ave	Shostrom
PA -2015-00374	160 Lithia Way	Emery
PA-2015-00878	35 S. Pioneer	NEED ASSIGNED
PA-2015-01496	35 S. Second-Winchester Inn	Shostrom
PA-2015-01695	399 Beach	Skibby
PA-2015-01769	860 C	NEED ASSIGNED
PA-2015-01517	209 Oak	Shostrom
PA-2015-02203	868 A Street	Whitford
PA-2016-00073	151 Pioneer	Swink
PA-2016-00275	574 Allison	Emery
PA-2016-00387	95 N. Main	Shostrom
PA-2016-00763	5 N. Main	Swink
PA-2016-00209	25 N. Main	NEED ASSIGNED
PA-2016-00818	175 Pioneer	Shostrom & Skibby
PA-2016-00847	252 B Street	Whitford
PA-2016-00587	872 Siskiyou Blvd	Skibby
PA-2016-01027	276 B Street	Shostrom & Leonard
PA-2016-01641	221 Oak Street	Shostrom

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Next meeting is scheduled December 7, 2016 at 6:00 pm

There being no other items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Regan Trapp