



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION for Wash. Co. & City of Weiser

Monday, March 6th , 2023

Time: 5 :00 PM

Location: Washington County Court House
Commissioner's Chambers in Weiser, Idaho

County HP Commissioners: Dennis Lance (absent), Brenda Aldrich, Tony Edmondson, Dennis Cooper, Thel Pearson

City HP Commissioners: Dennis Lance (absent), Lynda Lance (absent), Tony Edmondson, Steve Clausen, Cheri Clausen

Members of the public in attendance: Nina Hawkins, Coleen Grant, Jennifer Tate (Tech support) Dan Everhart- SHPO, Maria Rachel- CLG Coordinator, Julie Chandler. Secretary (absent)

Minutes: The minutes from the January 9th, meeting needed to approved at this meeting. Dennis C. moved to approve the minutes and Thel moved to second. Motion carried.

Dan Everhart introduced himself and Maria Rachel , Certified Local Government Coordinator. Weiser/Washington County are part of a group of 40 Certified Local Government organizations and Dan and Maria work with these CLG's to do the work of preservation of Historical sites throughout the state. They have a staff of about 10 people. It's very difficult to cover the whole state, so they rely on us as local agencies to keep them informed of what is happening throughout the state. He explained that the work that we do can be funded through grant monies that are only available through CLG's throughout the state. Maria will be your immediate liaison with our state office.

Maria introduced herself and spoke of her love of small towns. She said that she has had the opportunity to visit with Tony on the phone about your grant applications and opportunities to work with our group. We are anxious to provide assistance wherever we can. Please don't hesitate to reach out and let me work with you.

Weiser/Washington County began their CLG affiliation in 1987. Since your incorporation at that time, Washington County has received 7 grants from our office totaling over \$16,000.00. The City of Weiser has received 14 grants totaling \$38,000.00. City of Cambridge has received 15 grants totaling over \$28,000.00.

OLD BUSINESS:

Japanese Oral Histories: Dennis C. briefly visited with Sarah Imada to follow up on the videos of the oral histories of the Japanese oral videos. Sarah thought she had a mini-DVD player that would work to show those histories, but it was non-functional, so a way to convert them onto a useable venue will have to be completed before they are available for viewing. A gentleman had done video interviews of many of the folks that had been placed in the internment camps during WWII. Dennis L. learned about this internment camp

on the Weiser Flat while we were doing the survey work for our Preservation Plan. Coleen said that Dennis had discovered a barn type structure on the Flat still remaining from this internment camp.

Dan shared that “there is an organization that has been working to preserve the history of the Minidoka Internment Camp. We have learned that internees were sent to different agricultural regions from this Minidoka Internment Camp. It’s very possible that some of these internees were sent to Washington County from that camp, and if that is so, the Friends of Minidoka would be very interested to follow up on this structure and the Histories that are available. I will certainly follow up with a contact with the director of Minidoka and put them in touch with you”. Do you know of anyone we could get in touch with that could help Sarah to get this information off the “hard to access video form” and onto a form we can access?

Dan said that there is grant funds available to help with that process, if the State isn’t able to help with that transfer of information. Dennis will follow up with Sarah.

CLG Grant for this year: Maria announced that the Grants that Washington County applied for this last fall to do a National Registration Application for the Sunnyside School and the Sunnyside Dairy Farm is in process. The requested amount for \$3,000.00 is not enough to do both sites for National Register status, but we want to approve the grant and are leaving it up to this group as to which site you would like to survey with this year’s grant money. There is presently a researcher working on a school nomination in Idaho County and we can reach out to her to ascertain what amount will be needed to research the Sunnyside School is that is the way you choose to go. Or if you choose to go with the Dairy Barn, we would support that choice as well.

Dan added that there is a type of umbrella document that makes it easier to get certain properties listed in the National Register. There is a document of this type for Rural Idaho Schoolhouses and this means that you don’t have to put together all of the history in the same way. This means that a schoolhouse nomination could take a little less time and therefore cost a little less money than a structure that doesn’t have one of these things.

The Weiser School District owns the Sunnyside School and Tony has spoken to both the school and barn owners and they are good with the nomination to the National Register Nomination. We can only choose one structure for this year and can do the other one next year. Tony also reminded the group that we still need to come up with the match dollars to complete this grant.

Dan reminded the group that any time members of this Commission and volunteers working for our group spends in meetings, working on the properties, and working on the grant also counts as match \$ towards the grant funding. Coleen asked if time spent working at the Depot landscaping, cleaning, and caring for the properties are all eligible for the grant match \$\$\$\$. Dan will check on the type of hours that can be counted and get back to us. We need to be careful about the fine line between WAPC/WCHPC.

Cheri asked if there was a rate for volunteer time spent. Maria said that right now, it is \$26.11 per hour. Even your travel time counts towards the volunteer hours spent and all counts towards your match.

Dennis C. said that he felt we should choose to do the school for our grant this year. Tony said that he was leaning towards the school as well. Cheri remembered that the school was originally our first choice and the barn was the second choice. On down the line, we also have other rural schools that we may want to pursue. Brenda also felt the school was our best choice. Thel also voted that we plan to do the Sunnyside School for

our Grant agreement for this year. Tony asked just to clarify...we will contract with a consultant to do the National Register Application and then we pay them for the work and then get a reimbursement from SHPO for the amount we've paid. Dan said that yes, and the volunteer hours are calculated towards that reimbursable amount.

Maria then shared the timeline for the grant. This grant is for the FY 2023 which actually began in October of 2022 and runs until September of 2025. They run for a period of 3 years. She will let Tony know when we are free to sign a contract with a researcher. Dan reminded all that every time we meet, we have this grant process on our agenda so that it can all count towards your match.

Institute Pump House Graffiti: Tony reported that last summer, someone spray painted on the Institute pump house and it hasn't been mitigated as yet. I had spoken to Kim Gibbs and she is associated with the property. She felt they would get someone to paint over the brick and repaint the mortar lines. Dan said that he will find someone with knowledge of how to remove it. Painting over it is not a good option. Tony said that there is actually a city ordinance addressing the handling of graffiti. Dennis C. said that he thought a form of sand blasting the whole face without damaging the original structure.

City Commissioners Reappointments: Tony said that Steve Clausen and Dennis Lance's terms on the City of Weiser Historic Commission were up at the end of 2022. I need to follow up on that so that they are reappointed to the Commission. In January, the Mayor invited me to sit down with him and discussed our organization. He then invited Dennis L. and I to a City Council meeting and it was from that meeting that the article in the news came about.

Preservation Plan: We're done with the plan. Tony said that he has been contacted by the ladies from TAG that will very soon begin the surveying of our county. One of the things that they have asked us to do is put a notice in the newspaper that they'll be out and about doing surveys, so the members of the community know they are out there and doing a sanctioned job. They plan to begin their surveys in April, or May at the latest. Cheri asked if the TAG ladies would be prioritizing the properties from our list. Dan said that he is quite sure that they are committed to surveying all of the properties that we provided on that list as part of their project.

Heritage Trust: Tony was contacted by Katherine at Heritage Trust about a month ago. She has received \$750,000.00 in Federal Funding to establish a sub-grant program for the restoration and preservation of historic theaters in Idaho. He put her in contact with the Onionskins Group and Bob Barber for the Veterans Hall for the Little Theater group for those two theaters. Bob would like to see the Veteran's Hall get on the National Registry. Dan said that in order to participate in this project, a structure must already be listed in the National Register.

City of Weiser Comprehensive Plan: Tony, Cheri, Steve, and Dennis L. were all involved in the City's Comprehensive Plan the last time it was worked on years ago. The proposed updated Plan is a very general document. The plan came to Planning and Zoning in January which was the first time several of the committee had ever seen the plan. He distributed copies of a few pages from the plan and believes the whole will probably be approved. There are a lot of references to Preservation in the plan. We need to look over it as a Commission and make recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Committee. I would also like to go

back to the property owners on West Commercial and get the area r- zoned as Residential. Our Comp Plan tells us that we need to identify areas of Historic Significance.

Thel reported that when they established their City of Cambridge CLG, the City Council asked them to write up something for the City Code, which they did and that is still what they have in place today.

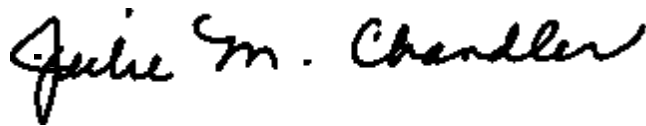
There was a lengthy discussion on the consolidation of the Three CLG's in our county. Dan said that he saw a lot of wisdom in having just one County Wide Historic Preservation Commission (CLG) for the entire county, rather than having three different entities. There are a lot of differences from one end of the County to the other as long as you remain aware of the needs of all of the areas within the County and respect each other's needs and wishes.

Meeting Adjourned about 5:50 p.m.

Next meeting: **Monday**, April 3rd, 2023 at the Washington County Court House. Watch your emails for the meeting reminder.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Chandler, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie M. Chandler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.