



CITY OF OREGON CITY

CITY COMMISSION JOINT WORK SESSION WITH THE HISTORIC REVIEW BOARD

MINUTES

Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City
Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:00 PM

CONVENE WORK SESSION AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Lyles Smith convened the meeting at 6:04 PM.

PRESENT: 5 - Commissioner Frank O'Donnell, Commissioner Denyse McGriff, Commissioner Rocky Smith, Commissioner Adam Marl, and Mayor Rachel Lyles Smith

HRB: 3 - Board Member Sabrina Ferry, Board Member Jessica Belknap, and Board Member Paul Edgar

STAFFERS: 7 - City Manager Tony Konkol, City Recorder Jakob Wiley, Interim Community Development Director Aquilla Hurd-Ravich, Asst. to the City Manager Lisa Oreskovich, Planner Kelly Reid, Planning Manager Teresa Montalvo, and Assistant City Attorney Carrie Richter

ABSENT: 2 - Board Member Raymond Stobie and Board Chair Grant Blythe

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Historic Preservation Program Discussion

Kelly Reid, Planner, provided the staff report. Ms. Reid reviewed the history of the preservation program and the McLoughlin and Canemah Historic Districts. Ms. Reid also reviewed the duties of the Historic Review Board (HRB), the decision criteria and the increased workload of the board that has occurred recently. Areas of improvement include the possibility of requiring a formal pre-application for applications; relying more heavily on design advice process; ensure 120-day deadline extensions are requested when possible; and improve application forms/templates and update design guidelines where needed.

Commissioner McGriff commented on her prior involvement with the Historic Review Board, the robust information on the website and her desire to see additional training opportunities for staff and that the pre-application meeting process become a requirement. Staff does an excellent job providing guidance to residents in the districts.

Commissioner O'Donnell would also like to see additional staff training and cross training and also requiring the pre-application meeting requirement for buyers and developers. He asked at what point are buyers and developers advised of the districts' requirements. Ms. Reid discussed the various notices sent by the City.

Mayor Lyles Smith followed up on Commissioner O'Donnell's question on buyer notification. City Attorney Richter indicated there is no legal requirement that a buyer or developer be advised on the historic districts' requirements; that the buyers need to do their own research. Commissioner McGriff commented that realtors generally don't know about the requirements or don't provide the information to perspective buyers. There was discussion on past efforts to add information to the property titles of historically

designated homes and a special arrangement to lower the recording costs with Clackamas County, that was never completed.

Mayor Lyles Smith supported having the pre-application meetings, additional staff training and proposed FAQ information to consider for the website. There was discussion with Ms. Reid on the new homeowner welcome packet that is also sent to all residents in the districts.

There was discussion with Ms. Richter and Ms. Reid about updating the code with amendments regarding home value and specificity on design criteria. Commissioner McGriff also supported more definition on design criteria.

Commissioner Marl asked about the onboarding process for new HRB members and Ms. Reid indicated there is a training she provides and a legal training by Ms. Richter. Commissioner Marl asked about what would be the guidance for installing solar panels on a designated home and Ms. Reid indicated they refer to the National Park Service Guide guidelines for the board to use for their reviews and there are not local guidelines that address that specifically.

Board Member Belknap supported the pre-application meetings and would like to see the real estate community provide better information to buyers.

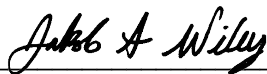
Board Member Edgar asked if the HRB guidelines were mandatory and Ms. Richter indicated the language of the code should be revised to eliminate confusion on the legality of the code.

Board Member Ferry commented she has concerns regarding the specificity of the guidelines and that doing so may not allow for consideration of new products that homeowners could use with renovations.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lyles Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jakob S. Wiley, City Recorder