

## **HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING**

City Council Chambers

February 16, 2016

### CALL TO ORDER – ITEM 1:

A regular meeting of the Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) was held at the above place at the hour of 5:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL – ITEM 2:

Commissioners Present: President LJ Gunderson, Vice President Michelle Dieffenbach, Commissioners Jack Osterberg, Paul Caruana, Kevin McHone, and Thomas Stanley.

Commissioners Excused: Mac Burns

Staff Present: Planner Nancy Ferber and Community Development Director Kevin Cronin. The meeting is recorded and will be transcribed by ABC Transcription Services, Inc.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES – ITEM 3(a):

President Gunderson asked if there were any changes to the minutes. There were none.

Commissioner Stanley moved to approve the minutes of January 19, 2016 as presented; seconded by Commissioner McHone. Ayes: President Gunderson, Vice President Dieffenbach, Commissioners Caruana, Osterberg, Stanley, and McHone. Nays: None.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS:

President Gunderson explained the procedures governing the conduct of public hearings to the audience and advised that the substantive review criteria were listed in the Staff report.

### ITEM 4(a):

EX15-14 Exterior Alteration EX15-14 by Daniel Peters to rebuild the exterior stairs and add a two-story deck on the northwest corner elevation and change a 1:1 window to a multi-light door on the north elevation (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) of an existing single family dwelling at 726 27<sup>th</sup> Street in the R-2, Medium Density Residential zone. This item was continued from the January 10, 2016 meeting. The applicant has requested this item be continued to the March 15, 2016 meeting.

Planner Ferber said the Applicant needed more time to finalize changes to his original plans and had asked for a continuance. She visited the property with John Goodenberger and saw that Mr. Peters was doing a good job scaling back the porch and clearing out some materials. She was excited to see his application, which she believed would be ready in the next few days. Director Cronin added the City had received a letter from the Applicant requesting an extension of the 120-day land use rule.

Commissioner Stanley moved that the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) continue the review of Exterior Alteration EX15-14 by Daniel Peters to the March 15, 2016 meeting; seconded by Commissioner Caruana. Motion passed unanimously.

### OLD BUSINESS – ITEM 5(a):

Verizon Appeal Decision.

Director Cronin said City Council voted to overturn the HLC's decision on Verizon's application. To date, Staff has not received an appeal of City Council's decision from Verizon. However, the appeal period is about to expire. If no appeal is filed, the City and Verizon will have to figure out next steps. If Verizon submits a new application to put a tower in Shively Park, the HLC will review the new application.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS/COMMISSIONERS – ITEM 6:

Director Cronin said February 26<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for Certified Local Government funds, which Astoria has used in the past for pass-through grants for façade renovations and to offset Mr. Goodenberger's fees. In addition to applying for these funds, Staff is developing specification and product sheets to hand out to applicants. He wanted to target the funds for the Uniontown area as part of a larger effort to revitalize the neighborhood. If Uniontown property owners do not apply for the funds, grants will be offered on a first come first served basis because Uniontown can also utilize Astor West Urban Renewal Funds.

He answered the Commissions questions about the City's façade renovation grant program, confirming the program had been in place for quite some time and Rosemary Johnson was finalizing the guidelines and standards for the program. Past grants to property owners have averaged between \$500 and \$3,000 as a 50/50 match.

PUBLIC COMMENT – ITEM 7:

Director Cronin announced Rachel Jensen who was in attendance, was the new president of the Lower Columbia Preservation Society.

Commissioner Stanley confirmed with Staff that the red building out on the water was listed for sale, but nothing else was going on with the property.

President Gunderson asked for an update on a deck the HLC approved for the pilot station building. Director Cronin said he had no information but would look into it.

Commissioner Osterberg noted that 2016 was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Columbia River Bridge and asked if any event was being planned. Now that the bridge is 50 years old, it could be considered historic. Director Cronin said Commissioner Burns was in charge of the bridge's 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration event and City Council has already authorized the use of Promote Astoria Funds for the event.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

**APPROVED:**



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Community Development Director