

West Linn Historical Resources Advisory Board

Annual Report to West Linn City Council

March 2, 2009

2007 was the first year of formation of the Historic Resources Advisory Board (HRAB), as the City obtained Certified Local Government (CLG) status in 2006. The accomplishments of HRAB in the past year included the following:

- Establishment of a board schedule including monthly meetings, the first Tuesday of the month.
- Determination of what projects should be completed by CLG grant money for 2008 (a survey for the Holly-Grove housing division and part of Bolton "Buck Street").
- Application for CLG annual grant for these projects and was successfully awarded said grant money from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in the amount of \$10,500 with the City of West Linn matching said grant for the total of \$21,000 to hire consultants for these projects.
- Producing and distributing a request for proposals to fulfill scope of work proposed for in CLG grant.
- Chose a consulting team from Seattle, whom in the past 20 years has worked on many NW Oregon historical projects.
- Determination of what projects CLG grant money will be applied for, in the 2009-11 cycle.

Goals for next year include the following:

- Having City Council expand HRAB to 7 members in order to better serve the City regarding all of the historical property issues, such as having a watchful eye on West Linn's unique history.
- Obtain CLG grant money to further study Bolton and evaluate the historical properties in the Sunset neighborhood. Also, begin the establishment of a historical industrial overlay to protect Willamette Falls Locks and Mill site.

Concerns that will be affecting HRAB ability to continue to preserve West Linn Historical properties:

- As of February 26, 2009 Clackamas County Review Board has decided to end the Intergovernmental Agreement it has shared with City of West Linn, due to the terrible review process with the TVFR's and their open rejection to conforming with the State and Federal Laws regarding historical preservation. This is a great deal of concern to the City of West Linn, without a review board we will lose our status of CLG, and any future SHPO grant money!
- SHPO's change in grant process, there will be 2 year grants with a total \$6,000 awarded for that 2 year cycle, which means \$3000/yr. with \$3,000 of matching funds from City of West Linn. To preserve West Linn's historical properties we need at least \$20,000/year to pay for surveys and hopefully establishing more National Historic Registries'.
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Long-term goals include the following:

- Hiring a Historical Preservation Officer to help strengthen the process to any changes to the historical inventory or land mark structures. This need could be assisted by assigning Tom Soppe to work on this transition.
- Changing the process on how the Planning Department works with local residents that own historical structures so there is a careful review of these valued properties.
- Obtain or design/build an eventual museum/tourism space(s) that will facilitate architectural and artifact display and storage of our historical treasures.
- Commit Council to updating of the Community Development Code as it relates to the preservation of historic properties and artifacts.
- Continue to obtain and oversee CLG grants and other public/private funding sources.
- Further historic resources training and general education for board members, staff, and local interested citizens.

Gail Holmes

Chairman of HRAB

From: Todd Iselin [mailto:todd@iselinarch.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2009 5:12 PM
To: Spir, Peter
Subject: fire station letter

3-2-09
Tom Soppe
gave to
Gail Helms
Chr.
WLR/AF

Hi Peter,

I am not sure if the letter I received today was in regard totally in regard to the fire dept issue, or if Linda had forwarded meeting minutes from our last Board meeting. There was so much frustration over this issue and TVFR's open rejection to conforming with State and Federal Laws regarding preservation that the Board no longer wishes to participate with the City.

The IGA was drafted many years ago and I believe County staff was compensated for their time at that point. The latest IGA does not compensate the County and our board unanimously agreed to halt all work. I believe final acceptance may need to come from the commission, but am not sure. None of us felt that the conditions of our decision would be enforced (as you allude to in your letter) and that our decisions were only a token effort by the city to appease political entities. We will also be requesting SHPO to no longer fund any grants until the City can establish its own CLG program.

I have enjoyed working with you over the past 20 years and look forward to doing so in the future. This was a decision our board did not take lightly and involved much discussion.

Todd

3/2/2009

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
SHARED USE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMISSION

This intergovernmental agreement is between the City of West Linn, an Oregon municipal corporation (City), and Clackamas County, an Oregon county (County). This agreement is effective when signed by an authorized representative of each party.

RECITALS

- A. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) provides that local governments may become “Certified Local Governments.” Certified Local Governments (CLGs) have certain rights and responsibilities under the NHPA and implementing regulations. In Oregon, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) administers the CLG program.
- B. To qualify as a CLG, a local government must have a historic preservation review commission (HPRC). The members of the HPRC must have a demonstrated interest, competence or knowledge in historic preservation. Local governments are encouraged to appoint persons who meet federal standards for historic preservation professional qualifications to the HPRC.
- C. The County is a CLG that has appointed members having the requisite interest, competence and knowledge to a Historic Review Board. This Board serves as the local HPRC when considering historic resources in the unincorporated area of the County. The City wishes to become a CLG and needs a qualified HPRC when considering historic resources located within the jurisdiction of the City. The City and the County agree that it is appropriate that the County’s HPRC, as augmented as provided in this agreement, also serve as the City’s HPRC.
- D. Shared use of the HPRC will provide for a competent and qualified HPRC for both the City and the County.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

1. City and County agree that the County’s Historic Review Board, subject to the provisions of this agreement, shall serve as the City’s HPRC when considering historic resources located within the jurisdiction of the City.
2. When acting for the City, the County’s Historic Review Board will not be applying County regulations, but shall have the responsibility to insure that the purposes within Chapter 25, 26, and 58 of the West Linn Community Development Code are implemented, including making decisions regarding new construction and alterations to structures within historic districts, recommendations for designation of historic landmarks or districts, the application of architectural design review standards within the Willamette Falls Drive Commercial District, and to review and make recommendations on proposed partitions or subdivisions of properties designated as a landmark site.
3. The West Linn planning staff shall process and prepare staff reports to assist the “HPRC” in carrying out its duties on behalf of West Linn.

4. The County reserves sole authority for appointment of members to the Historic Review Board. The County also reserves sole authority for removal of members from the Historic Review Board.

5. Subject to the limitations of liability for public bodies set forth in the Oregon Tort Claims Act, ORS 30.260 to 30.300, the City shall hold harmless and indemnify County, its, officers, employees, and agents against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses (including all attorney(s) fees and costs), arising out of, or resulting from the County's Historic Review Board's performance of this agreement when the loss or claim is attributable to the acts or omissions of the Board acting on behalf of the City.

DISOLUTION OF AGREEMENT

1. Either party of this agreement shall have the right to dissolve this agreement. If the time set forth by either party to dissolve this agreement is not mutually agreeable, then the party initiating the dissolution must provide a minimum one-year transition period before terminating this agreement.

ADOPTED this _____ day of September, 2005

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chair, Martha Schrader

Recording Secretary