



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of Landmarks & Design Commission, Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting

February 4, 2025

Time of Meeting

5:45 PM

Place of Meeting

**Council Chambers
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members

The meeting was called to order at 5:44 p.m.

Present: Jeff Watson, Vicki Sannuto, Fred Redmon, Marty Blackson, Cathy Poshusta, Teresa Chanes

Absent:

Others Present: Stacey Henderson-Planning Manager, Kathy Boots-Planning Technician, Sadie Thayer, Chace Pedersen -Associate Planner, Mark Rud-Associate Planner, Dan Carlson-Director, Dale Sherman

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Blackson motioned to approve the agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

3.A December 3, 2024 LDC Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Chanes motioned to approve the minutes from December 3, 2024. Motion passed 6-0.

3.B Approval of January 7, 2025 meeting minutes.
Commissioner Sannuto motioned to approve the minutes from January 7, 2025. Motion passed 6-0.

4. New Business

4.A Public Hearing for Consideration of a Special Valuation for Historic Properties Application, for the Historic Fish Block, at 114 E. 4th Ave, parcel ID# 757033. Appearance of fairness was reviewed. Staff member Henderson read the staff report. Staff recommended approval of the special valuation with the work that occurred from 2022-2024 with the following conditions:

- a. Monitor the property for its continued qualification for the special valuation;
- b. Comply with rehabilitation plans and minimum standards of maintenance as defined in the agreement;
- c. Make the historic aspects of the property accessible to public view one day a year, if the property is not visible from the public right-of-way;

- d. Apply to the local review board for approval or denial of any demolition or alteration; and
- e. Comply with any other provisions in the original agreement as may be appropriate.
- f. Applicant shall submit a notarized budget to the Community Development Department prior to finalizing the Special Valuations Agreement. The application has been submitted to the Assessor's Office and the decision will be made by December 31, 2024. The tax change will start in 2025, and the building will be maintained. Henderson reviewed the RCW's and how this project qualifies. The expenses submitted qualify. The applicant was present. Public comment opened. No applicant comment. No public comment. Public comment closed. Commissioner Watson motioned to approve the special valuation for the Historic Fish Block, at 116 E 4th Ave, as proposed in the February 4, 2025, staff report.

5. Unfinished Business

5.A 2025 Workplan Discussion and CLG Grant Discussion

Henderson reviewed the 2025 work plan of projects and goals. She updated the Commission that the Railroad subcommittee would meet in February. The CLG grant update is that staff met with Commissioner Watson and City GIS staff. Staff talked to DAPT regarding grant funds and options for use. The grant can not be used for scanning. The funds can be used for GIS staff and/or a consultant. Part of the work plan for 2025 is to review and revise the Comprehensive Plan section that relates to Historic Preservation. Discussion around potential projects for the CLG grant application for 2026 took place. Commissioners would like to research adding plaques or signs to the Historic Districts. The subcommittee will be Commissioner Watson, Chanes, and Redmon. Goals for 2025 are public education, City Hall 100 year anniversary, public outreach, presentations to groups, letter to owners in Historic District, and Historic Preservation month.

6. Citizen Comment

None

7. Staff Update/Discussion Items

7.A Planning department staffing and next meeting.

A new Commission member, Julia Stringfellow, was selected. The recommendation will go to City Council later in February.

Henderson announced that she was promoted to Planning Manager and will be phased out of the Landmarks and Design Commission. Associate Planner Mark Rud and Chace Pedersen were introduced. Each spoke to the Commission and will be trained to be assigned staff for the Commission.

The second meeting in February has been canceled. Staff will provide a list of upcoming meetings.

8. Commission Representative Update

Commissioner Watson discussed his research into addresses with input from Sadie Thayer.

Commissioner Chanes stated the Ellensburg Downtown Association will be assisting with Historic Preservation Month.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.