



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
501 N. Anderson St., Ellensburg WA 98926**

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**MINUTES OF THE LANDMARKS & DESIGN COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

**Date and Time:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 5:45 p.m.  
**Place of Meeting:** Remote Meeting via Zoom  
**Present:** Members: Mollie Edson, Dorothy Stanley, Marty Blackson, Lathan Wedin, Amy McCoy and Zane Kanyer  
**Absent:** Megan West  
**Others Present:** Stacey Henderson, Senior Planner – Historic Preservation; Kirsten Sackett, Community Development Director, Sadie Thayer, Director Kittitas County Historical Museum

Note: These are **Summary** Minutes *not* Verbatim Minutes

**1. Call to order and roll call of members**

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Edson at 5:45 pm.

**All in favor, motion passed.**

**2. Approval of the agenda**

Commissioner McCoy made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Wedin seconded.

**3. Approval of the minutes of the Meeting of April 6, 2021.**

Commissioner Wedin made a motion to approve the minutes of April 6, 2021. Commissioner McCoy seconded.

**All in favor, motion passed.**

**4. New Business**

**a. Historic Preservation Month – Project Recognition Discussion**

Chairwoman Edson introduced the topic of recognizing some of the historic structures that have been rehabilitated over the past year. She said the idea was to read a letter during the next City Council meeting to acknowledge specific property owners for their work.

Senior Planner Henderson said that the subcommittee decided to recognize three commercial and three residential projects. She shared her screen to display photos of the Geddis Building, McCormack Building and the New York Café.

The residential buildings included the Redmon House, the Ames House and the Anderson House.

Edson noted that there were a couple of additional homes that should be recognized, and some additional photos were displayed. Henderson noted that there should be some rationale for including the buildings. She said the subcommittee had talked about only including buildings that have been completed. Edson said that the group talked about acknowledging buildings that had been completed this year, and that the Commission should start doing this on an annual basis.

Edson asked Sadie Thayer if she had any additional recommendations, and Thayer responded that she felt that all of the properties discussed were wonderful examples of exemplary restoration.

Commissioner Blackson said that he believes this is great to acknowledge this important work that was done.

Edson thought that in future years it would be a nice idea to put a sign in the yards of the residential homes that were acknowledged. Henderson read through the letter that had been included in the packet. Edson thought it would be nice to include the historical museum as co-sponsors in the letter. Thayer said that the museum's board of directors was in full support of the LDC's plan to honor the work completed on these historic structures.

Commissioner McCoy offered to be the commissioner presenting on behalf of the LDC at the Council meeting. Henderson would create a PowerPoint with before and after photos of all of the buildings. She would provide additional details about the actual work that was completed on each structure during the presentation.

## **5. Old Business**

None.

## **6. Citizen Comment**

Commissioner Kanyer advised the commission that the Main Street Now conference is next week. It's all on-line so he encouraged everyone to check it out. He will send info to the rest of the commission.

## **7. Staff Update/Discussion Items**

Henderson shared a rendering of a temporary art installation approved by City Council during their meeting last night. It is art work that will go on the inside of the windows of the old bank building in the downtown park. This would not be going before review of the LDC, but she wanted to make the Commissioner's aware.

Council liaison Miller said that during the approval process, City Council suggested that the artist be put in touch with Sadie Thayer to capture themes and photos that were authentic and representative of the Ellensburg area.

Henderson noted that the demolition ordinance has been sent to a land use attorney for review, in addition to our new CLG coordinator at the state. She offered to provide her own feedback on the proposed changes as well.

## **8. Commission Representative Update**

Chairwoman Edson said she is concerned about the downtown park and what role the LDC will play in developing the design and look of the park in the historic downtown area. She would like to be kept more in the loop with what is going on in the park. She asked staff how they could make their desire known. Director Sackett responded that she would forward their request on to

P&R Director Brad Case. She noted that there would likely not be any work done on the park this year beyond the demolition of the drive-thru portion of the building. She said that Case was aware of the need to come before the LDC to receive final approval of the design, but she was certain he had every intention of being as transparent as possible in how the final design was developed. A great deal of community input would be solicited and that would certainly include feedback from the LDC.

Thayer said that the Historical Museum has the historic columns from the Olympic Block Building. These columns were part of the original building built in 1889 that was destroyed in 1979. The museum has offered those columns up for inclusion in the park, and Director Case has taken them up on the offer. She doesn't yet know what those plans will look like, but she is excited to see the columns incorporated into the final design.

## **9. Adjournment**

McCoy made a motion adjourn the meeting. Blackson seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.