

**CITY OF NEWPORT
HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MAY 13, 2015
REGULAR MEETING**

The May 13, 2015 regular meeting of the Newport Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) was called to order by Chairperson Linda Michie at 5:00 p.m. in the council chamber of the Newport City Hall.

Roll Call

The following members were present: Linda Michie (chair), Jo Bailey, Bev Bartl, Fred Leimbeck and Mary Ann Newman.

Also present: Robert Vogel (preservation planning consultant).

Secretary's report

The minutes of the March 18, 2015 annual meeting were approved as mailed.

Brown-Johnson house

Consultant Vogel provided a brief report on the progress of the historical and architectural survey of the historic Brown-Johnson House, 331 7th Street. A volunteer work day was held on April 25 and another work day is being planned for June. There was discussion of the feasibility of "deconstructing" the oldest section of the house so that some of the old lumber can be salvaged before the structure is demolished.

2015 Haugen award

This year's Betty Haugen Memorial Heritage Preservation Award will be presented to the Library Advisory Committee at the City Council meeting on May 21.

Pioneer Park building

Chairperson Michie presented her concept plans for repurposing the circa 1940 park building for use as a catering kitchen. There was discussion of how the building could be renovated and the potential cost. The consensus of the commission was that this was worth pursuing but first the HPC needs to obtain authorization from the city council to undertake a feasibility study. There was also discussion of how to gauge public support for this kind of project.

Red Rock Saloon sign

Consultant Vogel briefed the HPC on the results of his meetings with the Washington County HRA and the new owners of the former Red Rock Saloon with regard to the old

neon sign on the building's roof. The sign has not been evaluated as eligible for heritage landmark designation but should be considered an art object that could help preserve a sense of community identity. The consensus of the commission was that it would be appropriate for the HPC to help facilitate some kind of community partnership that would allow the owners to rehabilitate the sign and keep it as part of their business. The owners expressed interest in partnering with members from the community to save the sign and have agreed to include the sign in their plans for renovating the building.

Pioneer Day

Pioneer Day is Sunday, August 9 and the HPC will sponsor a public opinion survey, to be conducted at the park building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Vogel, Preservation Planning Consultant