

APPROVED

Forest Grove Historic Landmarks Board
Community Auditorium, 1915 Main Street
June 25, 2019 -- 6:30 P.M. Page 1 of 3

Members Present: Jennifer Brent, George Cushing, Larissa Whalen Garfias, Kelsey Trostle, Bill Youngs
Members Excused: Mark Fischer, Holly Tsur
Staff Present: James Reitz
Council Liaison: Tom Johnston was excused.
Citizens Present: 04 (Virginia Petersen, Jon Schnorr, Gary Eddings, and Melody Haveluck)

1. **Call to Order:** Youngs opened the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

2. **Citizen Communication:** None.

3. **Action Items / Discussion:**

A. Preservation Grant Requests:

- i. **Ireland House at 1803 Ash Street (Washington County Tax Lot 1S306BB12501). Applicants: Virginia Petersen and Jon Schnorr. File Number 311-19-000010-PLNG.** Mr. Schnorr described the project, noting that it has been approximately 20 years since the house was last painted. He said that the house was overall in fairly good condition, but the paint was starting to deteriorate. He noted there was lead paint and that would be dealt with in accordance with recommended practices. They have selected Craig Jones Painting, and the existing colors will be maintained. In response to a question about the dissimilarity in the bids they received, he replied that the other contractor does brush work exclusively and hence the bid was greater. They were pleased with Craig Jones's description of the work he would do and so have accepted his bid. The Board had no other questions but did recommend that after pressure washing the house, the painter should test for moisture content to be sure the wood had sufficiently dried before any painting started, especially as oil-based primer would be used. **Cushing/Whalen Garfias to approve a \$1,000 grant. Motion carried unanimously.**

- ii. **"Drazdoff" House at 1728 Ash Street (Washington County Tax Lot 1S306 BC00300). Applicant: Nola Drazdoff. File Number 311-19-000013-PLNG.** Reitz reported that the owner was disabled and not able to attend the meeting in-person, and that her daughter (the applicant) lives out of state. The applicant requested that the Board discuss the proposed project directly with the contractor instead.

The Board discussed how best to proceed, noting that the application form states that both the owner and a representative can speak for a project. Furthermore, contractors regularly speak at Board meetings, and phone conferences have also been used before, both for absentee owners as well as Board member's participation in meetings. It was concluded that a phone consultation would be acceptable.

A call was then placed to Brandon Davis of Terra Firma Foundation Systems. He noted that the porch had settled and they were proposing to lift it as much as possible but even more important to stabilize the structure to prevent future settling. He said the porch has a concrete foundation with a slab on top. They plan to lift the structure about 3 inches while watching for stress damage to the attached roof of the house. If stress appeared, they would stop before the full 3-inch lift and evaluate further. This procedure would lift the stairs at the same time.

He described the process as using true field piers to lift the structure and then inject a Poly Level solution to stabilize it and prevent cracking of the porch. In response to a question, he replied that the piers were a screw-type system that was offset so that the equipment used to install the piers would be located outside the porch's

perimeter. They would then be drilled down under the porch. In a typical project they would be drilled at least 20 feet down but oftentimes it is deeper depending on the soil type. The screws are about 3 inches in diameter and are designed to just go down and not pull dirt up as an auger would. Once the piers are installed a poly foam fill solution is injected under the porch to fill the void left after the lift. This solution would totally fill the gap and prevent any cracking of the concrete.

In response to another question, he said the firm uses a structural engineer and a geo-tech (soils) engineer to provide the proper engineering for the system. They also employ an outside engineering company to inspect their work to ensure it is done correctly. The Board discussed and concluded that the approach would be acceptable. **Cushing / Trostle to approve a \$1,000 grant. Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. National Night Out planning** (August 6): Whalen Garfias led the discussion of the activities and it was decided that she would do her kid house project again. The Board will also set up the display board, and provide information on earthquake preparedness and the photo contest, as well as have the usual handouts for distribution. Due to the volume of material to be displayed, plus an area for kid house assembly, the Board will request two tables.

- C. Editorial Calendar:** Trostle noted that not much was on the calendar at this time. For the fall edition of the FHFG newsletter, Youngs will do an article on the porch stabilization project and tie it into seismic upgrades and the preservation grants.

Trostle commented that the *News Times* appeared happy to do announcements but as far as general interest stories they didn't seem too receptive. At this point no articles will be done until the fall.

- D. Funding Sources:** Trostle reported that the subcommittee had not done any recent research. It was noted that the City has contracted with Court Carrier to work on tourism development and that he might have some ideas. Cushing said he would contact him. If Mr. Carrier has some ideas on funding sources, Cushing will contact Trostle to set up a meeting to discuss those ideas.

4. Old Business/New Business:

- A. Approval of Historic Landmarks Board Meeting Minutes. The meeting minutes of May 21, 2019 were approved as submitted.**
- B. Council Liaison Report.** None, as Councilor Johnston was excused.
- C. FHFG Report.** Gary Eddings introduced himself as the new liaison. He commented that he was still learning his job and added that the garden tour went well.
- D. Staff Update.** Reitz reported that two responses had been received for the downtown district nomination request for proposals; both firms are very well qualified. One was from HPNW, a consultant the City has contracted with several times before, while the other was from Painter Preservation, based in Spokane. The principle of Painter Preservation had worked for Oregon's SHPO for a few years, as well as having done a large variety of other projects since.

The Board discussed the two proposals at length and concluded that while both firms are qualified, Painter Preservation has a bit more experience in commercial districts and it could be advantageous to bring in someone with a fresh perspective. **Brent/Trostle to award the contract to Painter Preservation. Motion carried unanimously.**

- E. Report on May 28, 2019 City Council Presentations. Whalen Garfias said that both the Adult and Youth photo contest winners were present at the meeting, and the Youth category winner had her family there as well. Cushing said the Stewart Award presentation was attended by both Pacific University staff and the consultant that prepared the historic resources assessment.
 - F. July Agenda. Preservation grant requests, National Night Out planning, Chalk Art Festival planning, funding alternatives.
5. **Adjournment:** The June 25, 2019 meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

These minutes respectively submitted by George Cushing, Secretary