

Thursday, October 15, 2020
Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th

4:00 PM

Meeting may be viewed at: Live Stream on City of College Place, Washington YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbx3qrqzLDL_05NusReSI-g/featured

Or you may call this number to listen: 1-669-900-9128 ID#975 9417 6204

1. Opening Items

Subject :	1.01 Discussion Protocol for Virtual Meetings
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Virtual Meeting Discussion Protocol:

- After staff presentation of an item, the Chair will request comments from each Member
- After each member has had an opportunity, the Chair will then speak if so desired and Members will use the raise hand feature to notify the Chair of their desire to speak again. However, they will not enter the conversation without first being recognized by the Chair. This should allow for a thorough discussion with everyone having opportunity to express their views while maintaining order.

Subject :	1.02 Call to Order
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public

Type :	
Subject :	1.03 Roll Call
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Stanley Green, Chairperson

Gary Petersen, Vice Chair

Terrell Gottschall

Edward Kontz

Mike Denny

Jon Rickard, Community Development Director

Claudia Estrada, Community Development Administrative Assistant

2. Consent Agenda

Subject :	2.01 Approve Agenda for October 15, 2020
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent)
Subject :	2.02 Approve Minutes from September 17, 2020
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent), Minutes
Minutes :	View Minutes for Sep 17, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meetin

File Attachments

[HPCminutes_2020_09_17.pdf \(119 KB\)](#)

Subject :	2.03 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Commission by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Commission members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Commission member.
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	2. Consent Agenda

Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	Motion to approve consent agenda items 2.01 through xxxx

3. Public Comment

Subject :	3.01 Public Comment Procedure for Virtual Meetings - Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the City Council.
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	3. Public Comment
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the City Council.

COVID-19 Virtual Meeting Protocol for Public Comment:

When submitting public comments, include the following regardless of the manner you are using: - Note that there are deadlines for each method of commenting.

- Your Name
- Your Address

Public comments may be provided in one of three ways:

- Comments in writing of no more than 1 page (If typewritten, no less than 11 pt font.) may be submitted no later than 4:30 PM on the meeting date to be included in the record.
- Comments may be made by telephone during the meeting by calling a number that will be provided to you upon notification to the City Clerk no later than 2:30 PM the day of the meeting.*
- Comments may be made by virtual meeting attendance with a link that will be provided to your email upon notification to the City Clerk no later than 2:30 the day of the meeting.*

*If you would like to make a public comment by either phone or virtual meeting, you can contact the clerk at Ineissl@cpwa.us or by phone at 509-394-8511 no later than 2:30 on the meeting date.

4. Regular Agenda

Subject :	4.01 College Place 75th Anniversary Book
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	4. Regular Agenda
Access :	Public

Type :

Discussion

Public Content

Author Mike Denny has two draft chapters for review by the Commission. Mr. Denny will provide a brief update on his progress thus far. Open discussion regarding the draft chapters is encouraged.

File Attachments

[CP 75TH #2.pdf \(79 KB\)](#)

[The 20th Century in CP.asd.pdf \(47 KB\)](#)

5. Reports

6. Meeting Information

Subject :	6.01 Next meeting is scheduled November 19, 2020 @ 4:00pm
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	6. Meeting Information
Access :	Public
Type :	

7. Closing Items

Subject :	7.01 Adjourn
Meeting :	Oct 15, 2020 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda-24th
Category :	7. Closing Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Procedural

Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda (Thursday, September 17, 2020)

Generated by Lisa Neissl on Thursday, September 17, 2020

1. Opening Items

Information: 1.01 Discussion Protocol for Virtual Meetings

Procedural: 1.02 Call to Order

Chair Stanley Green called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM

Procedural: 1.03 Roll Call

Present	Commissioners	Stanley Green – Chair Mike Denny Terrell Gottschall
	Staff	Jon Rickard, Community Development Director; Lisa Neissl, City Clerk
Absent- Excused		
Absent		Gary Petersen – Vice Chair Edward Kontz

2. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): 2.01 Approve Agenda for September 17, 2020

Action (Consent), Minutes: 2.02 Approve Minutes from August 20, 2020

Action (Consent): 2.03 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Commission by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Commission members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Commission member.

Commissioner Denny made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Second by Commissioner Gottschall and the motion passed 3-0.

3. Public Comment

Information: 3.01 Public Comment Procedure for Virtual Meetings - Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the City Council.

The Clerk noted that no one had made arrangements for public comment.

4. Regular Agenda

Discussion, Information: 4.01 Work Session on 75th Anniversary Book

Author of the book, Commissioner Denny discussed the progress to date and provided feedback on the Preface that was shared. There was discussion about contacts that he has made as well as other books that have been written about various aspects of College Place.

Commissioner Denny informed the Commission that the rough draft will be delayed slightly due to the fact that he is waiting on responses from several people who no longer live in the area.

5. Reports - None

6. Meeting Information

Information: 6.01 - The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2020 at 4:00 PM.

7. Closing Items

Procedural: 7.01 Adjourn

Commissioner Gottschall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:57 PM. Second by Commissioner Denny and, with no objection, the meeting adjourned.

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting that occurred on September 17, 2020. Audio and/or Video recordings are available upon request.

Approved:

Chairman / Vice Chairman

Date

Attest:

Jon Rickard – CD Director

Date

Before College Place Was

After the Whitman Mission massacre and the Battle of Walla Walla and the end of Martial Law so much had changed in this area where College Place waited in the wings. The British and the Hudson's Bay Company were gone and a second fort had been constructed out on the old site of the original Fort Nez Peirce at the mouth of the Walla Walla River, this was the new trading center of Fort Walla Walla which was both a center of commerce and a military fort on the shores of the Columbia River. With the arrival of the 1850s a whole new group of emigrants arrived in this river basin to join the metis, the three tribes and the earlier settlers and that was business builders that determined the true value of the well-watered lands where College Place would eventually arise. Prospectors, small farm developers, cattlemen, traders and soldiers all lived in this area. The great Treaty of 1855 was convened on lands that are now the home of Whitman College and the City of Walla Walla. Several thousand native peoples of the sovereign nations of the Cayuse, Walla Walla, Umatilla, Nez Peirce and Yakima nations gathered to discuss and consider Governor Stevens proposals and hoped for agreements. Isaac Stevens was the Washington territorial Governor. Washington territory covered all of Washington, Idaho and western Montana. Along with Governor Stevens was Joel Palmer head of Indian Affairs for the Oregon Territory and his entourage. Governor Stevens asked that all the tribal leaders and clan representatives gather at his camp along Mill Creek in the Walla Walla Valley on the treaty grounds to come up with some agreements and to arrive at some understandings to secure lands for the all

the tribes present. This large group (3000+) of native peoples along with Governor Stevens and his entourage met on 29 May 1855 and after many discussions, intrigues and heated debates this group of men came to some understandings on a hot day in early June. On June 9, 1855, the Treaty of Walla Walla was agreed to and signed by all present. This treaty secured in perpetuity the rights of the tribes to hunt and fish on all ceded lands as well as reservations that only the tribes could live on. For the Cayuse, Walla Walla and Umatilla they would be allotted 510,000 acres in what became Northeastern Oregon just east of Pendleton, Oregon on what would be known as the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation or the CTUIR. In return the tribes gave up 6.2 million acres and opened vast areas to what would become Oregon and Washington States. Walla Walla Country now covered 110,000 sq. miles which stretched from what is now Skamania County Washington to the crest of the Rocky Mountains in western Montana. Washington did not become a State until 1882 when it was admitted to the Union as the 42nd state. The State of Oregon was created and admitted in 1859 as the 33rd state in the Union.

After the gathering of the tribes along Mill Creek in the Walla Walla Valley for the Great treaty Council of 1855 several skirmishes between the tribes and the US Army occurred outside of the Walla Walla River basin. From 1858 through to the 1880s large numbers of people migrated to Oregon and into the Walla Walla Valley. New immigrants like the Italians, Irish, Germans and Chinese all arrived with great dreams of what they could make of their fortunes in this rich valley. During the 1860s the US Civil

War was raging across the eastern and southern states and into the southwest desert states. Slavery and the ownership of humans was a raging issue that many abolitionists pushed to outlaw and eliminate from this country. The southern pro-slavery states disagreed. The western territories had few slaves and were deeply concerned with this issue as they were working on developing the centers of commerce and infrastructure to sustain these new territories. Prior to 1857 in the Washington Territory there was one known slave in the territory. Buying and selling of slaves in the territory was outlawed, but a single slave was brought in and yet no one demanded that person's release from slavery to freedom in order to remain in the territory. In 1857 the soon to be State of Oregon was legally closed to all Blacks. By 1859 and Oregon's admission to the Union the slavery issue in this state was hotly debated and then outlawed. Also, in 1859 the fledgling city of Walla Walla was platted and a growing town that developed around the third Fort Walla Walla had been moved to the valley. It was not until 1862 that Walla Walla was officially named and incorporated. It grew rapidly and attracted several highly motivated, far thinking, opportunistic businessmen that built Walla Walla into the largest city in the Washington Territory. By the end of the Civil War in 1865 some refugees from the south moved into the Walla Walla Valley to begin new lives on homesteads and farms around Walla Walla. Fort Walla Walla in its third reincarnation in 1856 was moved to within six miles of the destroyed Whitman Mission and the new city of Walla Walla developed around it. The soldiers were of economic importance to the new community. In 1855 the old abandoned fort on the Columbia was now

made into a busy port site as the discovery of gold in Idaho and Montana caused a high demand for goods from down river in Portland. A speculator named Mr. Vansyckle tore down most of the old fort and platted a new town he named

Walla Walla which became the only inland port in the Washington Territory where all kinds of goods could be purchased and hotel beds slept in as miners poured into the gold country to the east.

In 1860 prospectors had made a sizable gold strike on the Nez Peirce reservation which resulted in the creation of the Idaho Territory in 1863.

In 1862 the Mullen Road was completed from the new Fort Walla Walla six hundred miles east to Fort Benton, Montana by Captain John Mullen. This road can still be traveled north out of Walla Walla on 13th Avenue towards the Washington State Penitentiary.

The advent of the 1870s saw the arrival of many new settlers arriving in and around Walla Walla. The last of the wars and battles between the US Army and native peoples were fought with loss of life on both sides and loss of land by the tribes as they were ushered onto local reservations by the US Army and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. 1871 saw the beginning of the construction of Dr. Dorsey Bakers narrow gauge railroad line from Wallula on the Columbia to Walla Walla 29 miles to the east for the purpose of hauling grain, lumber and other products out to the Columbia River for shipment down to Portland and out to the Pacific Coast. The name of this first rail line in southeast Washington Territory was the *Walla Walla and the Columbia River Railway*. More emigrants arrived from the

mid-west and east coast looking for better opportunities for themselves and their families. Some arrived with missionary zeal to spread the Gospel and others strictly to find good farmland and make a living. Still others came to make a fast buck as miners, salesmen and speculators. The nearby Fort Walla Walla attracted all kinds of folks on the move and those looking to settle down which more and more families and groups were doing. Some recent immigrants from Europe and Asia also selected the Walla Walla Valley to set up shop and invest in this new land. College Place was yet to be a glimmer in anyone's mind, yet Walla Walla was growing and expanding around the Fort. There were those that were convinced that Walla Walla had a chance to be the Capitol of the Washington Territory and the state it would become as it was now the largest town in the territory. Many were pushing for statehood and wanted to join the Union. After all Oregon to the south had joined the Union in 1859 and was already a functioning independent State.

Water, Soils and Early Ag

With the rich, deep soils in southern and eastern Walla Walla County along the flood plains of the rivers and many streams that both emerged from the western and northern face of the Blue Mountains as well as numerous springs that originate from a series of fault lines running north to south through the valley agriculture was a natural pursuit with so much water available for irrigation. Many settlers soon learned that they did not even need to irrigate as the deep rich soils already had a natural sub-irrigation system.

As sodbuster plows went to work it was discovered that there was in excess of three feet of sod overlaying the rich

dark, moist soils deposited over thousands of years. In some areas to the north and south of College Place were native grasses that grew more than six feet high on north and east facing slopes where the topsoil was moist and deep. On south and west facing slopes was a mix of bunch grasses interspersed with the shrub-steppe native plant community which is the dryer “Touchet Beds” depositional loses sandy soils that are very well drained and hold little moisture. These are the soils that College Placed was built on many years later that had several creeks flowing across it that were tributaries of the Walla Walla River.

What is Behind a Name

The name Walla Walla is a native peoples *Sahaptin* word translated to English meaning “place of many waters”. All four *Sahaptin* languages are now considered critically endangered with less than 125 speakers worldwide. The Cayuse language is now extinct with only a little over 300 known words in existence. The word Walla or Wala is a Hindi word from the Indian Sub-continent many thousands of years old meaning “a worker” or “employee”.

Floods Build Great Soils

What was discovered by early pioneers and no doubt already understood by the native peoples was that the larger streams and rivers coming out of the Blue Mountains are “very flashy” systems. This entire valley is subject to flooding when conditions were exactly right. The Walla Walla River and its tributaries will burst over their banks and great volumes of raging water will rip across the landscape bringing channel change, recharging the shallow aquifer as well as bringing valuable organic material to the

flood plain soils. Combined with the many Missoula Flood deposits laid down over thousands of years some of the richest, most valuable soils on earth exist just south of Walla Walla-College Place and along the foothills of the Blue Mountains and are soils that are now known as snow silt loams. These soils currently produce 147+ bushels an acre wheat, un-irrigated. So it was that these soils and waters were to be a magnet that attracted many thousands of folks to this valley.

Hints of a College

In 1869 the first discussions began among the early Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) members in the valley about building a college. That same year Dr. N. G. Blalock offered/donated to the Adventist leadership in the valley 40 acres of land to build their college on with a stipulation that they operate the school for a minimum of 25 years. This launched a concerted effort in planning, fund raising and design of the first building that would establish Walla Walla College. Three early pioneers stepped forward to guarantee the funding to pay for the land if the denomination did not follow through with the agreement to operate the college for at least 25 years. They were T.L. Ragsdale, H.W. Decker and Greenville Holbrook.

By 1870 the first Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) church was built in Walla Walla which was the seed that would lead to the development of an Adventist School system in this valley. By 1873 a second Adventist church had been constructed also in Walla Walla. On July 11, 1887, the Milton Academy in Milton, Oregon six miles to the south of Walla Walla was completed and opened. This was the first

educational institution run by the SDA denomination in the valley. Because the SDA denomination strongly supports education as part of its mission the creation of schools was inevitable given the desire to have a Christian based system. By the mid-1880s the Walla Walla Valley was changing as many immigrants arrived and started businesses and farms. Many emigrants also arrived on their way west into the “Oregon Country” on this branch of the Oregon Trail.

End of Chapter

The Arrival of the Twentieth Century: The First Fourteen Years

From Sanitarium to Poor Farm

As the last few days of the 19th century slipped away, and the 20th century arrived in College Place, this village was experiencing drastic changes that were on the horizon at the close of the 19th century. The arrival of the internal combustion engine, Power farming, larger faster locomotives, larger and more boats on the Columbia, more immigrants and folks moving to the College Place area attracted by the expanding Walla Walla College, great farming opportunities and farmlands available. There were now many large orchards, row crop farms and businesses opening in and around College Place. A Sanitarium opened in the late 1890s in the private home of Dr. and Mrs. Dunlap but soon had to move into much larger facilities in the basement of the boys dorm on the WWC campus as the need for medical/health education was in demand along with an outbreak of TB. Soon the sanitarium moved again as it grew, this time into an old public-school building. Walla Walla College never bought or owned the sanitarium that Dr. and Mrs. Dunlap had started. After three years this sanitarium moved once again this time into Walla Walla and eventually became The Walla Walla General Hospital. In 1891 Walla Walla County built a "Poor Farm" with a ten room two story house, a barn and a tuberculosis hospital that was used to house the indigent and homeless until its closure in early 1954. This facility was run by Walla Walla County until the establishment of the Federal Social Security system and the county was no longer entirely responsible for its operation and economic

maintenance. Also, at this location was a barn and a Tuberculosis Hospital along with a Poor Farm cemetery. The ten-room house was demolished in 2018, the barn was used for storage by the owner of a manufactured home court that had been established around the large abandoned "Poor Farm" house. This barn was also eventually demolished by the landowner. The Tuberculosis hospital structure was disassembled and carted off for reconstruction and used elsewhere in College Place as a private home near Larch and Scenic View. The Poor Farm Cemetery is now owned by the City of College Place and is located at the corner of Sandpiper and Mockingbird in south College Place and is protected by the 1990 Washington State Historic graves and cemetery protection act. A little over 700 people are buried there. The last burial was in 1942. Most of the graves were marked with round cylinders with a number on them. Over time many of the cylinders were removed or covered up. A portion of this cemetery then had a playground placed on top of it during the development of the manufactured home community. Many of the names of the people buried there are to be found in the Walla Walla County Courthouse records and online under the Walla Walla County "Poor Farm" Cemetery history placed by Walla Walla 2020. As a side note in 2018 there was a new commission established in and for the City of College Place named the College Place Historic Preservation Commission. Their first historic preservation goal as they were getting their feet under them was to try and save the old house at the Poor Farm site. Before the HPC could work on saving this historic house the owner of this old structure removed the building.

Baseball & Blue Laws

In 1901 there was a local legal battle going on that pitted Americas favorite past time the Sunday afternoon baseball game against Washington state's established Blue Laws.

Blue Laws or Sunday Laws were established in the Washington Territory in 1881 by the legislature to retain and protect the morality of the populace by enforcing a day "where one could not fight or offer to fight another nor could a person dance on Sunday". In Walla Walla, this fight erupted over Sunday afternoon baseball games in 1901 that caused several pastors in Walla Walla to push to protect the "Lords Sabbath" and not allow desecrating the morality of local youths. These pastors were preaching in their Sunday services that baseball games were flouting the law and creating a noisy, loud tumult breaking the sanctity of the Sabbath. Now a local attorney by the name of John Sharpstein was asked to be the manager of the local hometown baseball team which he accepted and set to work in setting up several Sunday afternoon baseball games. He soon found that the local pastors of several churches were irate with him for breaching the states long standing Blue Laws. Mr. Sharpstein ended up in court defending baseball from the established Sunday Laws. Right in the middle of this fracas between Mr. Sharpstien, and the State of Washington a businessman by the name of Dorsey Nichols decided to open his dry goods store in College Place on Sundays. Mr. Nichols was also the postmaster of College Place at that time. He was reported to the Police then hauled into court for breaking the Sunday laws of the State. Mr. Nichols retained Mr. Sharpstien as his defense attorney. Mr. Sharpstien argued the fact that

Mr. Nichols was an Adventist and that he worshipped on Saturday and therefore the Washington State Blue Laws were in violation of the 14th amendment and the separation of Church and State. The judge disagreed and fined Mr. Nichols 25.00 and found that he had broken the State's Blue Laws by opening his store in College Place. In 1909 Washington State Legislature enacted even more severe Blue Laws known as the "Breaking the Sabbath Laws" which was an expansion of the 1881 Sunday laws, making it illegal to open and operate any business deemed nonessential with only a few businesses like undertakers, drug stores, livery stables and hotels, (but not with the sale of alcohol in the hotel's case) were allowed to open and operate, with this go around the Blue Laws do not forbid playing baseball on Sunday afternoons. In fact, baseball was not mentioned as an infraction of these new and stricter Sunday Laws after Sharpstien's arguments in court. Though many retail stores ignored these Sunday laws and sporadic fines and arrests were brought against businesses over the next 57 years that opted to open on Sunday. Washington State retained its Blue Laws until they were overturned by a referendum of the people on 9 December 1966 after a coordinated organized alliance between several business coalitions, The Adventist Church and many of its members from College Place.