

Minutes
Aurora Historic Review Board
Tuesday, November 28, 2023, 7 P.M.
City Council Chambers, Aurora City Hall
21420 Main Street NE, Aurora, OR 97002

STAFF PRESENT: Stuart A. Rodgers, City Recorder

STAFF ABSENT: None

VISITORS PRESENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER OF THE AURORA HISTORIC REVIEW BOARD MEETING

Chair Jan Peel called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Jan Peel-Present

Member Gayle Abernathy-Absent

Vice Chair Julie Sixkiller-Present

Member Richard Goddard-Present

3. VISITORS-NA

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a) Historic Review Board Minutes – October 24, 2023

Chair Peel noted that under Old Business, third sentence, the sign on the public right of way on Ehlen Rd is not permitted by city or county ordinance (rather than being out of compliance with HRB rules). In the last sentence, Peel suggested getting rid of the mention of “out of compliance.” Suggested language should indicate that signage on the right of ways on Ehlen and Airport roads need removal.

Motion by Member Richard Goddard to accept the HRB minutes with the changes as noted by Chair Jan Peel. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Julie Sixkiller and passed as corrected.

5. CORRESPONDENCE-NA

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Aurora Colony Pub A-Frame Sign Application

It was noted that the wood frame can have four colors and is in compliance: red, black, green clover, and gold for the beer mug. The HRB wanted to reiterate the need for a white background, given the image of the sign in the application appearing grey.

Vice Chair Julie Sixkiller moved to approve the Aurora Colony Pub sign, not as pictured with a grey background but as a wood sign with a white background, black lettering, red Oregon lottery logo, the green clover and gold for the foam mug. The motion was seconded by Member Goddard and passed.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a) Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant – Update and Promotion – Kuri to Join HRB

Kuri Gill joined the HRB and noted she hopes to get the applications for the next CLG grant cycle out in December. Because the federal legislature has not made decisions on appropriations, this impacts the amount of funding the state can offer. Assuming funding stability, maybe as high as \$15k, depending on how many CLGs apply. Grant deadline is as always, the last Friday in February.

Relative to replacement of the welcome sign in poor condition, no CLG funds can be used for such a project. Kuri suggested looking into regional tourism organization for funding. The grant cycle includes a due date as of the last Friday in February. Evaluations include considerations for meeting grant requirements. Kuri suggested making sure projects can be completed within the proposed budget, which may require some adjustments. Once approved by Kuri, the applications go to the deputy state historic preservation officer for approval, with grant agreements developed in March so work can begin April 1st. The entire cycle is about a 17-month grant period. The focus of grants should be historic properties, including possible projects involving documentation, designation, archaeology, public education, and tools to help design review process (database development, GIS web mapping/storing maps online for use by public and staff). Sometimes project designs do not meet the standards, so a consultant could be hired using CLG funds to update a project application. Structural assessments toward long-term plans for preservation work as a project. Also, direct assistance for properties that are national register listed for rehab or preservation work on a property. As the HRB develops ideas, Kuri is glad to serve as a resource for reviewing these. If a new sign is not feasible, at least some beautification around the sign could be done: some pretty stonework, flowers, carpet roses as examples. In the triangle, the city could place a flagpole with the American flag and City of Aurora flag, possibly with some up lights to accent the flags at night. It was noted that T-Mobile, Republic Services, and other utilities donate to communities. Putting out the CLG to local businesses was discussed, and Chair Peel can reach out to Mike Byrnes about the grant he got to replace the building's roof where she has her business. The City Recorder will send out CLG guidelines and the application following this meeting to HRB members toward a grant application submission end of February 2024. A possible partnership could be developed with the museum on a project – the HRB would need to request and discuss with the organization a list of possible projects. A question was asked as to whether more than one project could be taken on through CLG funds. Another question was if paint for rehabilitation purposes would fit the CLG, as the General Store needs painted. The City Recorder will follow up.

Member Goddard will review Title 17 for January's HRB meeting, and this will be added to the agenda.

Chair Peel visited Canby Sign and Graphics and learned that the a-frame signs they use are made of vinyl laminate expanded PVC plastic. Sign applicants have potential for up to three signs with the sign itself and a plastic insert printed on both sides when using the deluxe model of Signicade A-frames. Some clarification on black vinyl lettering relating to a-frames needs added to the code. A suggestion was made to re-do the designations of types of historic buildings (conforming, non-conforming, etc.), and place each designation in its own section in the code. The Design Guide could also use an update. Paint colors could be uploaded as part of the update to the city's website.

b) Brainstorm on Ideas HRB Can Work on to Project a Positive Image

This item was discussed in part under the discussion above about possible CLG grant projects.


c) Update on Historic District Sign Review and Non-Compliance

This item not discussed.

d) HRB Member Recruitment
This item not discussed.


8. ADJOURN

Chair Peel adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.



Jan Peel, Chair

ATTEST:



Stuart A. Rodgers, City Recorder

