



Minutes - Draft

DESCHUTES COUNTY HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

DESCHUTES SERVICES CENTER

1300 NW WALL STREET, BEND, OREGON, 97703

FEBRUARY 3, 2025 – 5:30 P.M.

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I. Call to Order

Chair Rachel Stemach called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Historic Landmarks Commissioners present in-person: Chair Rachel Stemach. Commissioners present via Zoom: Vice Chair Dennis Schmidling, Eli Ashley, Mark Hudson, Christine Horting-Jones (Ex-Officio). Absent: Lore Christopher, Lily Syphers (Ex-Officio). Staff present: Tanya Saltzman, Senior Planner and Will Groves, Planning Manager.

II. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the November 18, 2024 , and January 6, 2025 minutes. Vote: Motion carried to approve both sets of minutes.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Action Items

1. *DLCD Goal 5 Cultural Areas Rulemaking Update*

Staff provided an update on the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission's (LCDC) recent rulemaking regarding Goal 5 Cultural Areas. The rulemaking, which was deliberated on December 5, 2024, and adopted effective January 1, 2025, introduces new guidelines for protecting significant cultural areas. Key changes in the rule include:

- Removal of references to Eastern Oregon Solar Siting due to ongoing rule development.
- Optional local protections for archaeological sites, allowing local governments to require preconstruction surveys in high-likelihood areas.
- Clarification on tribal consultation timelines, ensuring responses are included in first evidentiary hearings.
- Mining exemptions, specifying that protections for cultural sites cannot limit mining in pre-approved significant aggregate sites.
- Alignment with National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106, requiring local governments to defer to federal protections after NHPA review.

Staff emphasized the implementation timeline and resources available from DLCD, including model language for notices and best practices for tribal engagement. The Commission will continue to monitor the rollout of these new regulations and assess potential implications for Deschutes County. Discussion:

- How can local governments best prepare for these changes? Staff noted that guidance documents from DLCD are forthcoming in the spring and fall.
- Do any of these rules override existing county protections? Staff clarified that existing protections remain in place, and new rules offer additional tools rather than imposing mandatory changes.

No action was required at this time.

2. CLG Grant Discussion

The Commission discussed potential Certified Local Government (CLG) grant projects for 2025. Staff summarized the priorities from the special meeting in January, where commissioners and the City of Sisters identified key funding areas. Proposed grant priorities:

1. Commissioner Training – Attendance at the Oregon Heritage Conference (April 29–May 2, 2026). Estimated cost: \$9,702.
2. City of Sisters Walking Tour Brochure – Content updates and reprinting. Estimated cost: \$1,000.
3. Three Sisters Historical Society/Preservation Month Support – Funding for community education events. Estimated cost: \$250.
4. HLC Annual Membership – National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) – Estimated cost: \$150.

Staff confirmed that the CLG grant requires a 1:1 match, which would be covered primarily by staff time. Next steps: Staff will bring the proposed projects to the Board of County Commissioners as a request to apply for the grant and will submit the application by the Feb. 28 deadline.

3. Subcommittee Roundup

Subcommittees provided updates on their ongoing activities:

- **Cultural Resource Work** (Commissioners Hudson & Stemach): Future work will largely depend on rulemaking direction provided by DLCD.
- **Wildfire & Preservation Issues** (Commissioners Ashley & Syphers): None.
- **Camp Abbot Preservation** (Commissioners Hudson & Christopher): None.
 - **Public Awareness & Preservation Month** (Commissioners Stemach, Ashley, Syphers): Chair Stemach noted that she recently sent an email regarding planning for Preservation Month to begin plans for this coming May.

VI. Staff and Commissioner Comments

Staff Comments:

- Reminded the Commission about the next meeting date and pending agenda items.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Stemach adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tracy Griffin, Administrative Assistant

All materials including (but not limited to) video, presentations, written material and submittals are subject to the County Retention Policy. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid format, adhering to the guidelines set by the Deschutes County Planning Commission for public engagement and meeting conduct.