



# Dayton Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 23, 2019 **Time:** 6:00 PM

**Place:** 111 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Dayton, Washington 99328

---

## **A. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Chair Mike Smith called to order the regular meeting of the Dayton Historic Preservation Commission at 6:00 pm.

## **B. ROLL CALL**

A. Members present: Mike Smith, J.J. Dippel, Ginny Butler, Carole Lane, and Rusty Figgins

Staff: Meagan Bailey, Director of Planning and Community Development

## **C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

A. August 28, 2019

a. A motion was made by Butler and seconded by Dippel to approve the original August 28, 2019 as presented and to rescind approval of the version adopted during the September 25, 2019 regular meeting; none opposed. Minutes approved.

B. September 25, 2019

a. A motion was made by Butler and seconded by Lane to approve the September 25, 2019 meeting minutes as presented; none opposed. Minutes approved.

## **D. DESIGN/SPECIAL VALUATION REVIEW**

A. None presented.

## **E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. JJ Dippel project update

i. Dippel offered an update regarding the Minnie Moe article as printed in the Dayton Chronicle. The Chronicle incorrectly gave credit to Dippel instead of the DHPC as requested. It was discussed that and further submittals would be submitted only by staff on behalf of the DHPC and would be submitted to both the Dayton Chronicle and the Waitsburg Times.

- ii. Dippel has requested access into a “searchable database” that offers ownership information as far back as the early 70’s. Staff will reach out to the county auditor to request access. If a payment is required for access, staff will discuss this request with the City Administrator and report back in the November meeting.

**B. Downtown Dayton, Walking Tour Guide**

- i. Staff presented a brief update on progress to the guide; there is no editable version of the current brochure and staff is recreating from scratch. It was discussed and mutually agreed that a redesign, shadowing the Wheeling example, should be created. Instead of a map; however, staff will incorporate interesting facts about the area. The final draft will be presented in the November meeting.

**C. Main Street Plague Report**

- i. Butler provided an update on the grant application. The application requires exact GPS coordinates identifying the location for the sign.
- ii. It was discussed and agreed that Flour Mill Park would be a proper fit, as it’s accessible and on the west boundary of the district. Staff will coordinate with Butler to determine desired location and to aide in getting a letter of approval for placement, if necessary.

**D. Site No. 5202 Identification**

- i. Smith reported on the research completed for this project, attached herein as Exhibit A.
- ii. It was agreed that the synopsis provided by Smith should be submitted, following minor revision, to the Dayton Chronicle and the Waitsburg Times with request to publish. Prior to submitting, staff will email a copy to DHPC members for approval.
- iii. Staff will get a new photo of the site for WIZAARD to Dippel.

**E. Pietrzycki Park Signage Report**

- i. Wording and design had previously been agreed upon and decided; however, confirmation of funding is needed prior to continuing with the project. Staff will discuss funding options with the City Administrator and request a \$500 budget for the purchase of the City Park sign as well as install assistance from the Public Works crew. Staff will provide an update at the next regular meeting.

## F. House Placard Update

- i. Placards are only available to those houses that are eligible for the National Register; 215 E. Spring St. property is listed as SHPO ineligible. Dippel will reach out to Kim Grant to request guidance and more information on reason.
- ii. In general, placards are ordered through Eerie Monument. Additionally, homeowners are responsible for the costs associated with the placard.

## F. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Residential and Business of the Year – Nominations

- i. Butler nominated that 258 East Main Street (owned by Mark and Vonda Anderson) to be the *Business of the Year* and that 312 East Patit Street (owned by Jonathan Fletcher) be the *Residence of the Year*.
- ii. No other nominations were received for the awards.
  1. A motion was made by Dippel and seconded by Butler to accept the nominations made by Butler; none opposed. Staff will coordinate with the property owners and provide tickets and event information.

## G. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Dippel indicated concern regarding possible issue with the Port of Columbia and new fiber installs; it was stated that this is not something regulated and/or monitored as that is out of the prevue of the DHPC. No action taken.
- B. Butler informed the DHPC that the Grist Mill Stone is crumbling due to structural deficiencies from rust/age. Staff will coordinate with a local and volunteer welder and try to gauge the issue. If it is not something that can be fixed without extensive tools, staff will reach out to Dayton Tractor and/or Wiley Monument to create a new rim. Staff will report back at the next regular meeting.
- C. Staff informed the DHPC that applications are being accepted for the 2020 Façade Grants.
- D. Additional outreach was discussed, and a scheduled monthly article will be considered. It was considered the be a “*Did you Know?*” style of article to include interesting facts about the historic people, places, and more of Dayton and the surrounding area.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Butler motioned and Lane seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the Dayton Historic Preservation Commission at 7:29 p.m.. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved by:

---

Mike Smith, Chair

Date

Attest:

---

Meagan Bailey, Planning Director

Date

## Synopsis of Indian Battles in Dayton on the Touchet River and Patit Creek

### Prior to 1848

The junction of the Touchet River and Patit Creek was known as the "Crossing" as Dayton was the summer meeting of various tribes. Included were the Nez Perce to the east, Palouse to the north, Yakamas to the west and Umatillas, Walla Walla and Cayuses to the south. They gambled on pony races and played stick games where the City of Dayton is now and the trail continued almost down Main Street to the Tucannon River in the east.

### Cayuse War 1847-1848

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, 1847 the Whitman Massacre occurred by the Cayuse Indians and the Cayuse War began. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1848 Colonel Cornelius Gilliam was camped with his Oregon Volunteers on the Tucannon River at the Nez Perce Trail crossing. Upon receiving word some of the Cayuse Indians responsible for the Whitman Massacre were at the mouth of the Tucannon River. He marched his troops all night and upon arrival the next morning he was told the Indians had forded and crossed the Snake River but had left their livestock. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1848 Col. Gilliam then gathered up the livestock (Cayuse or Palouse had left) and started back to the crossing of the Touchet River at Dayton. After marching only a very short distance his troops were attacked by about 300 to 500 Palouse warriors left behind by the Cayuse. The Indian attack was staved off initially but a running battle ensued and continued until the Col. Gilliam and his men made camp that night on a small creek (Patit Creek) without having reached the Touchet River. The Palouse warriors fired into the camp all night and the Volunteers decided to release the horses to mollify the Indians but it was not successful. Next morning the Col. Gilliam and the Volunteers continued the retreat to the Touchet River. The Palouse realizing the goal set up battle lines in the underbrush and scrub of the river bottom. In the afternoon the desperate battle was on and lasted between one and three hours until Col. Gilliam and Volunteers fought their way across the Touchet River at which time the Palouse withdrew. There were reportedly 10 injuries and 1 death according to accounts and a number of Indian dead. On March 16<sup>th</sup> Col. Gilliam and his men reached Fort Waters about 30 miles away having had nothing to eat for 3 days. This marked the end of the Cayuse War as the warriors involved dispersed among other tribes and eventually were all caught and hanged by 1850 in Oregon City.

### Treaty Issues 1855-1858

In 1855, Kamaiakun, a Yakima Chief had defeated Gen. Steptoe in the north and Indians were emboldened in the area. Walla Walla tribal Chief Peu-peu-mox-mox decided not to honor their treaty as well upon the death of his son by whites. Major Indian battles in the north had settled the Yakama issue and late in 1855 the Battle of Walla Walla occurred effectively ending the major uprising but tensions still remained. Another skirmish happened in Dayton at the "Crossing" on July 13, 1858 when W. J. Lindsay in charge of 13 packers escorted by Lt. Wickliff of Company F, 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry camped on the south bank of the Touchet River opposite Patit Creek. About 70 Indians came down from the hill on the north and circled the packers and soldiers. The first circle around the camp left 2 white men dead and 3 wounded. Led by Lindsay the men waded the Touchet River above the mouth of Patit Creek and ran upstream as the Patit Creek afforded the cover under a high bank and waited for the next charge. The Indians made several more charges but eventually withdrew. At the end of the skirmish there were 11 dead Indians and 13 dead ponies between the creek and the foot of the hill.

### Sources

- 1) Historic Sketches of Walla Walla, Whitman, Columbia and Garfield Counties, W.T. by Frank T. Gilbert, Portland, Oregon, 1882
- 2) Early Columbia County by W. F. Fletcher pgs. 14-15
- 3) Palouse Indians and Oregon Volunteers battle in Columbia County for 30 hours beginning on March 14, 1848, by Phil Dougherty Posted 11/29/2006 Historylink Essay 7807
- 4) Columbia County Dispatch, Vol. 20 Dayton, Washington Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1922 No. 78
- 5) History of Columbia County, by Mrs. A.M. Van Nice, Pgs. 1-4
- 6) An Illustrated History of Southeastern Washington, Chapter III History of Columbia County, by Western Historical Publishing Company, 1906 Pgs. 279-280 & 282-283