

Call to Order (Attendance, Agenda, Conflict of Interest)  
Introductions  
Approval of Agenda for September 7, 2023  
Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 3, 2023  
Call for Public Comment  
Committee Updates  
Review of Permit Applications  
Old/New Business  
Adjourn

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**Call to Order (Attendance, Agenda, Conflict of Interest)**

Chair Susan Hughes called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. There were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

Blaine Cliver, Eric Kortum, Jon Mooallem, Rick Chandler, Susan Hughes, Zachary Allen

Absent or excused: None

**City Staff and Council Members in Attendance:**

Ellen Schroer, Deputy City Manager, Daria Hansen, Public Records Analyst, Council liaison  
Clarence Moriwaki

**Guests:**

None

**Review & Approve Agenda:**

Susan asked to have the Old Business added back into the agenda.

**Motion:** I move to approve the September 7, 2023, agenda with Old Business added back in.

**Cliver/Mooallem:** Approved unanimously

**Review & Approve Minutes:**

**Motion:** I move to approve the August 3, 2023, meeting minutes.

**Kortum/Allen:** Approved unanimously

**Call for Public Comment:** No public comment

Deputy City Manager, Ellen Schroer, introduced herself and stated that she will be taking over as Staff Liaison for the next couple of months, after which time, the person fulfilling this role will be reassessed.

**Committee Updates:**

- **Identifying Register-eligible Properties-**

Eric made a brief presentation about the minesweeper site, provided a sheet outlining the historical timeline of the Ferry Yard and gave a brief overview about the minesweeper history on Bainbridge Island. He outlined his goals of getting the property added to the historic register, as well as what the upcoming facility tour would entail. The tour is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup>, from 12-2 p.m., with Rick and Blaine attending. Commissioner's spouses, City staff and Councilmembers are invited to attend as well. Eric emphasized the importance of the minesweeper history to the development of Bainbridge Island. A more detailed presentation will be given at the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- **Public Outreach-**

Commissioners commented briefly about their participation in the Farmer's Market booth in August and highlighted specific areas of interest from the public. A discussion followed about topics for next year's booth and how the HPC could reserve the booth monthly for the 2024 market season.

- **Comprehensive Plan Update-**

Susan expressed the desire to get more clarity on how exactly the HPC could contribute to the comprehensive plan. Ellen passed out flyers for the upcoming workshops on the comprehensive plan kickoff and suggested HPC members attend and come back to the City with helpful input. Discussion followed on which members would attend which workshops. Ellen emphasized that the City welcomes the HPC's input on all aspects of the plan. The members will present their suggestions and experiences at the October 5<sup>th</sup> HPC meeting.

**Review of Permit Applications: 3708 Point White Drive Residence Demolition-**

This application pertained to demolition of a house that is over 50 years old. Ellen made brief comments of introduction and the online permit file was reviewed. The commissioners concluded that there was too little information to make an adequate assessment of the property and requested the application be sent back to the Planning Department and homeowner to fill in the missing information. A discussion followed. Further review of this application will be postponed to the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Old Business (added back into agenda at start of meeting):**

- Michelle Thompson didn't come to the meeting today because she wanted Michael Hauser to tour the Suyematsu farm first, but this was delayed due to City negotiations with the farm owners. Once this issue is concluded, commissioners will take Michelle and Michael to tour specific historical sites around the island and have them speak at the

HPC meeting about the CLG program. The likely timing is for the November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Susan would like to extend an invitation to Council members and staff to attend.

- Old Police Station-certain HPC commissioners are passionate about preserving the old police station building and were wondering if it would be appropriate for the HPC or individual commissioners to write a letter to the newspaper to see if there was any public interest in preserving the building. Ellen stated that it would not be appropriate for HPC, as a city group, to approach the paper, but it would be OK as individuals. An intense discussion followed regarding safety issues with the building, seismic retrofitting, city purchase of the property and the history of the project, and the need for the HPC to be included in the decision-making process at an earlier stage with future projects.

Zach suggested having a plaque placed to commemorate the site or saving something tangible from the property to be displayed at the historical museum.

A demolition report is currently being prepared by an architectural historian. This report will be provided to the HPC for review and comment.

- Fort Ward District-Susan followed up on her comments at the August meeting, regarding the loss of historical integrity in the Fort Ward District and how the HPC should move forward with assessing building review questions from the public. Susan passed around a historical timeline and different maps of the area. Discussion followed.

Current options on how to proceed seem to be:

- a) Suggesting a discussion to remove its historic designation;
- b) Working with Parks and Recreation to ensure they are considering Fort Ward as historic, needing stronger protections or signage to preserve what is left;
- c) Continue on in this limbo

Discussion followed. How do other historical districts handle these matters? Maybe HPC could allow individuals to remove their homes/properties from the register upon request? Can the history be preserved in some way vs. removing its designation? If HPC doesn't de-list it, can the municipal code be changed so any action within the district comes through the HPC for approval? The commissioners want to hear from Michelle Thompson and Michael Hauser before any decisions are made and will discuss again in November or December.

### **New Business:**

- Susan received an email from Arcadia Publishing, asking if the HPC would like to author an updated history book on Bainbridge Island. Discussion followed. This issue will be discussed further at the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Zach mentioned interest from a volunteer with Historic Everett to meet with the HPC; maybe tour each other's historical sites. Discussion followed.

**Summary of Action Items:**

A list of action items for upcoming meetings was summarized by commission chair, Susan Hughes.

**Adjourn:** Chair Hughes adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.

**Approved by:**

  
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Susan Hughes, Commission Chair

  
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Daria Hansen, Public Records Analyst

APPROVED