

City of Bainbridge Island  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
May 3, 2018

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**HPC Members:**

David Williams, William Shopes, Francis Jacobson, Sandra Burke, Marcia Montgomery

**HPC Non-Member Advisors:**

Olivia Sontag (City Planner); Sarah Blossom (City Council Liaison) Rick Chandler (Curator, BIHM); Joan Walters (Board President, BIHM); Brianna Kosowitz (Executive Director, BIHM)

**Member of the Public:**

Christian and Amy Andersen (Owners of 9500 Bucsit Lane NE)

**CALL TO ORDER / APPROVALS / CONFLICTS**

- Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm
  - There were no conflicts of interests
  - The Minutes for March 2018 and April 2018 were approved
  - There were no conflicts of interest
- Introduction of Brianna Kosowitz, new Executive Director of Bainbridge Island Historical Museum.
  - Native of upstate New York with an MA in Public History from American University in Washington, DC
  - Previously worked for the Smithsonian Institute for five years

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO 9500 BUCSIT LANE NE**

- The Background Details
  - The structure is on the Register Eligible list
  - The original owner and builder was Manuel Bucsit who came to Bainbridge Island in 1928 and married a First Nations Canadian from Duncan, BC in 1942
  - Mr. Bucsit was one of the original Filipino farmers and worked as a strawberry farmer and shipyard worker who retired in 1975
  - Mr. Bucsit was also a primary developer of the irrigation systems on Bainbridge Island
- Description of structure
  - The house sits on a 10-acre parcel and was built in 1947
  - The house is 817 sq. ft. and is a 2 bed-2 bath home with a gabled roof, concrete block foundation, shiplap siding and asphalt shingles
  - Other structures involve a 400 sq. ft barn and two sheds.
- Proposed Changes
  - Replace the asphalt shingles with a dark bronze or navy-blue metal roof
  - Replace shiplap siding with shingles that will have a dark-brown stain
  - Replace the windows that will match the original
  - The outbuildings cannot be restored
- Discussion
  - Mr. Shopes recommended researching the Secretary of Interior standards, which can be found on-line, or there is a hard copy at the library

- Ms. Burke stated that replacing the shiplap siding with shingles would alter the integrity and Ms. Montgomery believes that these changes would take it out of context
- Mr. Andersen stated that he has found some irrigation piping and would like to donate to the BIHM, but Mr. Williams recommended he donated it to Friends of the Farm via their executive director, Heather Berger, whose contact information he will provide after the meeting.
- Mr. Williams stated the incentives of placing the structure on the local Historic Register, such as the fact that remodeling expenses can be deducted from the assessed value.

## REPORT ON SITE VISIT TO 750 MADISON AVE N – WALLACE HOUSE

- Findings and Opinions
  - The house was visited in April as a follow up to the original March visit
  - The site visitors were Marcia Montgomery, Carol Oas and Sandra Burke
  - Ms. Burke stated the house still retains a fair amount of its integrity, and because there it is one of the last original structures left on Madison Ave.
  - Ms. Montgomery questions the contextual integrity, but agrees with Sandy that it should be preserved
- Discussion and future actions
  - Mr. Shopes stated, in concurrence, with Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Burke that the structure has lost some of its integrity, and that the proposed 90-degree move will compromise it further, the home is worth preserving.
  - Mr. Williams stated that the structure is linked to a prominent figure in Island history
  - Determined to be Register Eligible

## SPRING HISTORIC REGISTER WORKSHOP AND “PLAQUE PARTY”

- Proposed Agenda and Program
  - The event will be on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 6:30 pm
  - The agenda will be amended in practice if fewer people than expected attend
  - The first event will be the plaque presentation to each owner of a home on the Historic Register
  - This will be followed up by informational presentations geared toward those invitees who have “Register Eligible” homes as well as for those receiving plaques
    - For “Register Eligible” invitees, Mr. Williams would provide information on what the benefits of being on the local “Historic Register”
    - Ms. Montgomery would provide information on how to research your historic home and available resources
    - Mr. Williams and Ms. Sontag would discuss the process of placing a “Register Eligible” home on the actual “Historic Register”
    - Finally, Ms. Wolfe would discuss “Showcasing Your Property.”
- Discussion of Program Agenda
  - Ms. Montgomery stated that the best was to research the history of a property as well as the application process would be to choose a single structure and “drill down” to all levels
  - Ms. Burke said that the application form was difficult to find so instructions on navigating the COBI website would be beneficial as well as how to complete the form

- Museum resources that should be discussed are old maps, family files and photographs
- Mr. Williams stated that Secretary of Interior standards should also be discussed.
- Discussion of Event Logistics
  - A rotating photo carousel would serve as a backdrop during the receipt of the plaques by homeowners
  - As to what will be served and how much will be based on how many invitees reply to invitation with an affirmative.
  - There will be a two-week period for invitees to reply, and this will give us a one-week period to plan based on confirmed numbers
  - Another question involved whether this event should be made public via an announcement even if the public is not invited.

#### DAHP GRANT 2018 SUBMITTED

- The original idea from the March 2018 meeting involved the development of design guidelines in identified Historic Overlay Districts
  - This idea, however, would conflict with other City Commissions
  - The grant application that was submitted was for the rehabilitation of Island Center Cemetery

HISTORIC FARMS SIGNAGE – Ms. Burke has no updates as the sign artist she had in mind is no longer in business

#### OTHER MATTERS AND ADJOURNMENT

- Museum Grant Application
  - BIHM applied for a \$50,000 grant from the DAHP for restoration and maintenance of a one-acre cemetery in Island Center
  - The cemetery is little known and is accessible only by a narrow dirt road that links to Miller Road
  - The cemetery has been neglected for many years but is the resting place for many island pioneers, particularly Filipino and Japanese farmers
- The need for new members
  - Mr. Shopes and Mr. Williams will be retiring
  - We will need a new commission chair
  - We will need another Commissioner to examine potential historic trees
  - We will also need someone to update the Historic Register
    - Ms. Sontag offered to take this duty
- The Meeting Adjourned at 3:10 pm