

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

**WORK SESSION: 21<sup>ST</sup> Anniversary Wildwood Celebration Discussion (6:00 p.m.)**

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Wildwood City Hall – Community Room

Thursday, May 5, 2016

16860 Main Street

Wildwood, Missouri

## I. Welcome and Roll Call:

Acting Chair Barth called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance and a roll call was requested, with the following results:

**Attending:** Acting Chair Barth, Commissioner Rosener, Commissioner Wojciechowski, Commissioner Jeter, Alternate Thompson [arrived at 6:07 after roll call], Council Member Liaison Cullinane, and Planning and Zoning Commission Liaison Gragnani

**Absent:** Commissioner Sahm, Commissioner Long, and Council Member Liaison DeHart

**Staff:** Director of Planning Joe Vujnich and Senior Planner Terri Gaston

## II. Opening Remarks and Event Booklet Discussion:

Director Vujnich thanked the Commission for attending another Work Session, this month's being the third so far. As of the last session, four (4) [**in bold**] of the following eight (8) components identified were discussed:

1. **Modify the cover of the booklet to include a photograph of one (1) of the more historically-significant buildings located in the City of Wildwood (i.e., what building or buildings?).**
2. **Consider selecting a period of history of this area and develop it into the story for inclusion in the booklet, such as the *Civil War Years in Wildwood*.**
3. Develop a new set of *Points of Interest*, including a corresponding map.
4. **Include photographs of all of the historical properties on the City's Register in the booklet.**
5. **Change out photographs from 2015 booklet, so all are new for 2016.**
6. Engage re-enactors to participate in the event and highlight the period of history emphasized in the booklet.
7. Engage storytellers to participate in the Saturday portion of the Celebrate Wildwood Event. These storytellers could highlight the selected timeframe from the area's history.
8. Highlight the Community Markers Program, with photographs of them and the text inscribed upon each of them to be included in the booklet as well. Other components associated with this program that were discussed by the Commission members included an automobile tour designed to highlight the eleven (11) communities and the markers located at each of them and hosting ribbon-cutting ceremonies at their newly-installed locations.

Tonight's discussion would continue with Items #1, #2, and #4, and identify locations for Items #3 and #5, all of which would involve a two (2) part dialog: Part A - *Prehistory draft* and comment on the *Booklet Cover draft*; Part B - *New Points of Interest* and photographs.

**Part A - Prehistory draft and comment on the Booklet Cover draft**

Director Vujnich reiterated the Commission's direction that it agreed for the Department to take on research of the desired era, which is Prehistory to 1776. He provided a draft of Native American/Indian Culture beginning approximately 10,000 years ago, per the provided outline, beginning with *Pre-Clovis* Period through the *Protohistoric* Period, largely using Joe Harl's book [UMSL] and colleague, Robin Machiran. Of the twelve (12) periods identified during this era, the first two (2) included summaries of each, while the third period, *Dalton*, would be investigated at the archeological sites in Babler State Park. Director Vujnich noted some periods were not as pertinent to Wildwood (or the surrounding area) or information was sketchy, such as the between the Early Archaic up to the Mississippian Periods. He suggested going through each to find what is pertinent and content could center on what Native Americans used for hunting; where they fished and gathered food [in valleys], and camped [on bluffs] for the lesser known periods of this era. Obviously, the Celebration Booklet would credit the sources in multiple ways and facts would be verified.

The Commission considered this outline a very good start. Commissioners Barth, Rosener, Jeter, and Council Liaison Cullinane chose to research the *Protohistoric* period, offering to meet with the Wildwood Historical Society. They would contact Lisa Kelpel and/or Martha Bunch to meet during the weeks of May 9th or 16th and send the information to staff to be compiled. It was suggested to end this section with Jan Steven's family's lineage, as the transition into next year's Celebration Booklet, picking up the next era, with Ninian Hamilton's settlement of the area, beginning around the Revolutionary War to the Civil War.

Discussion moved to the booklet cover, with Director Vujnich noting staff's initial meeting with Stacey Mincoff, graphics consultant, on March 8th. A draft of the cover was provided to members for tonight's discussion, centering on the layout and collage of photographs on the back cover. These photographs included ten (10) of the eleven (11) buildings on the City's Historic Registry, with two (2) of the pictures being duplicated, perhaps used as place holders. The 11th building, being Butler Securities, is currently under renovation and a picture can be provided in a few weeks, once the exterior is finished. There was some brief conversation regarding issues with other pictures, including the Old Glencoe Post Office, since the added covered porch, makes it appear too modern-looking; Ben Baumer Home is screened too much by trees; and many other buildings were cut off in the pictures. New pictures should be provided, being more artistic and inserting an old-time picture of each, presenting a 'then and now' theme. The layout was also more blocky than that of a collage; it was also suggested the pictures be clipped to represent puzzle pieces, thus following the 'Piecing the Past Together.' It was suggested to add the date of each structure, such as a small 'c. 18xx' label.

Other cover comments included making the circular event badge smaller, so as not to cover up photographs, and change out the front cover photographs for more appealing ones. As for the inside of the booklet cover, Page 1 is the Mayor's letter and the scavenger hunt was moved from the back cover of the booklet to the inside back cover. Discussion on this item ended with a statement regarding that all booths should have stack of booklets, to which Director Vujnich replied that Key Club students from Lafayette High School are being contacted to determine if they would assist in this regard.

### **Part B - New Points of Interest and Identify New Photographs**

Last year, there were 14 Points of Interest identified on back side of the map, with a summary of each, while the map depicted these as numbered locations and identified the eleven (11) Historical Districts as a circled, photograph call-out, with summaries of each below the map.

This year, the decision was to highlight area schools, parks, and civic/institutional uses that were not previously identified. The following locations were chosen for 2016's Points of Interest:

- 1) Marianist Retreat
- 2) Bluffview Park
- 3) Elementary Schools: Fairway, Green Pines, Babler, and Pond
- 4) Middle Schools: Wildwood, Rockwood Valley, LaSalle Springs
- 5) Lafayette High School
- 6) Old Pond School & Park
- 7) St. Louis Community College
- 8) YMCA
- 9) Pond Athletic Association
- 10) Anniversary Park
- 11) Glencoe City Park
- 12) Al Foster Memorial Trail
- 13) Zombie Road/Rock Hollow
- 14) Bethel Rock Church
- 15) Bethel Church
- 16) City Hall [16962 Manchester (now Imogene's); 183 Plaza; 16860 Main Street]

It was decided to make icons of the actual Historic Markers' shape and update the map using pop-outs or insets in the 'blank' areas of the map. New pictures of each of these listed locations would be obtained.

### **III. Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

Director Vujnich requested the Commission consider another Work Session, prior to the regular meeting scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Acting Chair Barth adjourned the work session at 7:03 p.m. The Commission took a short break, before reconvening for the regular meeting scheduled for this evening.