

TO: Historic Preservation Commission  
FROM: Chuck Denney, Parks and Recreation Director  
DATE: February 16, 2023  
SUBJECT: Brewmaster's House Arson

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1) Recommended Action:

Information Item - Staff will provide the commission with information about the status of the house and contents and the timeline for repairs.

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2) Background:

On January 21, 2023, the Brewmaster's House/Museum was the target of arson and sustained damage to the exterior, interior and some contents within the house. The Brewmaster's House, listed on the Tumwater Register of Historic Places and the National Register as part of the Tumwater Historic District, acts as a museum and archive for many irreplaceable historic Tumwater photographs, paperwork, and memorabilia.

The Declaration of Emergency signed by the Mayor on January 31, 2023, and ratified by the City Council on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. This declaration allows staff to immediately contract for the necessary repair and restoration services. Securing the property and repairing the house immediately is necessary to curtail further damage. Ratifying the Emergency Declaration and Waiver of Competitive Bidding Requirements allows staff to act quickly to enable a greater chance of renovation success.

2023 events that have been planned at the historic house have been cancelled.

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3) Alternatives:

☐ N/A

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4) Attachments:

None