

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

Thursday March 25th, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the Waverly Public Library
Conference Room

Members present: Jim Hundley, Mary Meyer, Karen Lehmann, Kate Payne

Members absent: Geneva Liebau, Erika Lindgren, Les Zelle

Council present: Kathy Olson

Visitor: Tom Hicks, Kelly Engelken

Also present: Sarah Meyer-Reyerson and Beth Paulsen

Call to order: 6:00 p.m.

Approval of minutes:

Motion to approve February minutes: Lehmann

Second: Meyer

Yes: 4

Absent: 3

Regular business:

1. Demolition, Deconstruction, or Moving of Buyout Homes

Meyer-Reyerson stated that INRCOG has not yet completed the demolition contract for the City yet. Once it is done it will go to council for approval.

Lehmann expressed interest in contacting the salvage yards listed in the MOA packet that are located in this area, if there is no local interest. Payne suggested we send notice of public bid to salvage yards in the area.

Lehmann suggested the newspaper do a story on moving a home and what is involved in such a project.

Olson asked when INRCOG may be bringing the contract and questions to council. Meyer-Reyerson stated there is no date set.

2. Managing the Memorandum of Agreement Projects

The commissioners agreed that the surveys should be done by architectural historians preferably within a couple hundred miles of Waverly. Payne stated that she thinks we need a minimum of three. Lehman previously created a suggested list of consultants. Lehmann proposed that we have Payne narrow down her suggested list of consultants to those that meet the credentials the commissioners stated.

The commission reviewed the sample RFP given in the MOA packet.

Olson asked if the homes being torn down privately by Fareway for its expansion are involved in the MOA process. Payne stated that we should check with Marlys Svendsen (Iowa Homeland Security) on whether they should have documentation on these homes before being torn down.

Payne asked if we are obligated to take the lowest bid from the consultants. Meyer-Reyerson will pursue this question before the next meeting.

3. Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program

Engelken stated that she would like to clarify information circulating in the community due to an article recently appearing in the local paper regarding tax incentives for rehabilitation of downtown businesses that contained inaccurate information.

No in-depth historic survey has been done on the downtown area, so Engelken explained that the criteria and process involved in qualifying for this incentive would be very difficult to meet. Engelken stated that once the historic downtown district is established more businesses will be able to qualify for these types of incentives. The incentives are always there, the only deadline currently in place is for work done due to the flood. Most of the businesses in the district did not sustain enough damage from the flood to qualify for this program.

4. Preservation at Its Best Award

Meyer-Reyerson stated that Lehmann had sent email wondering if the Sturdevant's could be nominated for this award. Due to the wording of the requirements they would not meet the requirements.

Payne asked if there are any projects we could nominate.

The commission reviewed the criteria for nominations.

5. National Trust Grant for historic schools

Meyer-Reyerson stated that she forwarded the grant information to Jere Vyverberg in consideration of the Jr. High/Old High School building.

Engelken offered to forward it to Jason Passmore, as well.

Reports and Communications:

- Council Report – Olson

Twenty five buyouts will be completed next week. Total of 42 completed. There is hope that all buyout processes will be completed by June.

- Staff Report – none

- Chairperson Report – Payne

Payne sent an email to Jere Vyverberg this week regarding the documentation of Irving since it was torn down this week.

Meyer-Reyerson will check into what has been done so far in documentation of the building and report back to the commission via email.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be Thursday April 22 , 2010 in the conference room of the Waverly Public Library