

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

Thursday, June 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting held at Waverly Public Library in the Conference Room

Members Present: James Hundley, Kathryn Payne, Karen Lehmann, Mary Meyer, Les Zelle, Tom Hicks

Members Absent: Erika Lindgren

Council Present: Kathy Olson

Also present: Beth Paulsen

Visitor: none

Call to order: 6:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes as written made by Lehmann and seconded by Hicks.

Yes: all

No: none

Absent: 1

Regular Business:

1. Architectural Salvage from Buyout Homes

Payne reported that she met again with INRCOG as a representative of the Commission. Per request by Kathy Sturdevant, Payne asked that Preservation Iowa be allowed to salvage from the entire list of buyout homes stated as safe for abatement not just those listed as historically significant.

Payne also reported that she was informed that the commission must list any homes they want protected from salvage in order for those homes to be moved. Those homes listed as protected for salvage would be made available to move but if not sold would be turned over to the demolition contractors to salvage or demo. Relocation and demo must be in once contract, while salvage must be in another.

The commission discussed the process that would be necessary to establish which homes would be placed on a list to protect from salvage. Consideration was given to posting notices in the paper, the website, addressing it at city council meeting, etc.

Discussion also took place regarding the regulations placed on this process by FEMA. These regulations create circumstances that would most likely prevent or make it extremely difficult for anyone to move any of the homes from this list.

Commissioners discussed the lack of interest up to this point in anyone coming forward asking to move a home on the list, as well as, discussed the likelihood of anyone being able to move a home in the given stringent time frame currently in place.

The question was posed whether it was wise to place any of these homes on a list that would protect and also prevent salvage by Preservation Iowa.

The fact was discussed that there may be someone unaware of the availability of any of these homes. But the likelihood of anyone being both willing and able to do this in the allotted time was decided to not be worth the risk of losing the opportunity to salvage from the home.

The point was made that salvaging items keeps at least some pieces of the home potentially in the local area through using them for restorations in Waverly, while moving a home most likely removes the entire structure out of the town of Waverly.

Lehmann stated that the commission would push for the salvaged items to be available to view locally in a reasonable time frame and public notice be made when this occurs.

This would make the salvaged items more visible and accessible to the community.

Meyer questioned where the Preservation Iowa would be storing the item salvaged in Waverly. Payne will discuss this with Rod Scott of Preservation Iowa.

Payne stated that if we are not looking to protect any homes from salvage there would be no need for the commissioners to enter the homes before the process moves forward.

Payne stated that about two weeks prior to the homes being available for salvage, Rod Scott will be given notice of the time frame for salvage. This will likely be late July or early August. Since no other non-profit has expressed interest and ability to do the salvage, Rod Scott and Preservation Iowa will be doing all the salvage of historic items from the homes. (Insurance issues would likely prevent any other non-profits from being able to salvage items from the homes.)

Once the salvage of historic items is complete, the homes will be up for bid for demolition. The contractors will be paid to demo the homes and will be allowed to salvage “white” items from the homes if they so choose. (“White” items refer to items such as appliances.)

The commissioners regretfully decided that it will not plan to place any of the homes on a list for protection from salvage in order to allow someone to move them.

The commission stated that it would like to continue to push for salvage to occur in all the buyout homes listed as safe for abatement, not just the ones considered historically significant.

2. Historic Survey of Downtown Waverly

The RFP has been completed and sent out to the desired consultants. Due to the timing of the process the deadline for submission was moved from Friday June 25th to Friday July 2nd, 2010 at 4 p.m. CDT.

The commission scheduled a special meeting to be held to review the proposals on Monday July 12th from 6-8pm.

Council Report:

Olson reported that there was considerable discussion at the last council meeting regarding the Public Works Department’s recommendation to rebuild and resize 2nd Ave SW from 40 feet wide to 35 feet wide.

Staff Report:

Paulsen stated that Hicks has completed his orientation.

Paulsen stated that efforts are underway to further improve the HPC website to include all award recipients and Waverly Historic Register properties.

Lehmann and other commissioners expressed their appreciation for the time, effort and expertise given to the various projects recently by Chairperson Payne.

Chairpersons Report:

Payne mentioned that there would likely be a need for volunteers to help any consultant that is hired to complete the requested tasks.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

The next meeting will be a **special meeting July 12th at 6:00p.m.** in the conference room of the Waverly Public Library.