

Minutes from the Historic Preservation Commission Meeting – March 24, 2011 at the Waverly Public Library Conference Room

Members present: Tom Hicks, Jim Hundley, Karen Lehmann, Erika Lindgren, Mary Meyer, Kathryn Payne

Member absent: Les Zelle

Visitor: Mayor Bob Brunkhorst

Staff Present: Beth Paulsen and Sarah Meyer-Reyerson

Council Absent: Kathy Olson

Call to order: 6:00 p.m. by Payne
Visitor Comment: Brunkhorst stated that he has contacted any Commissioners whose term expires in May (Zelle, Payne, and Lindgren). Les Zelle will not be returning but Don Meyer will join the Commission in his place. The other Commissioners (Lindgren and Payne) will remain on another term.

Approval of Minutes

Motion- for approval made by Hicks

Second: Lindgren

Yes- 6

No-0

Absent- 1

Regular Business:

1. Salvage Discussion

- Final thank you notes and ads – this is almost complete
- Further publicity of the salvage project - Commission is still pursuing the possibilities of other preservation publications
- Proposal for funding from Preservation Iowa for signage – Payne will write the letter and proposal to be sent
- Second group of buyouts -
Meyer-Reyerson stated the city will let Habitat for Humanity have opportunity to move homes before they would go up for bid, but feels that Habitat for Humanity may not currently be interested in any of the homes. In the interest of time there will not be any homes available for salvage after abatement. Kohout from the city had suggested that if anyone wants salvage they would need to contact the demolition contractor. Brunkhorst suggested that HPC encourage the city council to pursue any salvage options. There are homes that are candidates to move. Meyer-Reyerson stated that the homes with potential historic salvage are likely limited to four, which on the reconnaissance survey are listed as “contributing” to a historic district.

2. Survey Projects-

- Meyer-Reyerson reported that Jan Olive Full (Tallgrass Historians) is interested in a public meeting to be held in mid May (14th-15th) to inform business owners of the tax incentives/credits for them in restoration once the districts are in place. She is working through site forms for downtown.
- Marlys Svendsen is finalizing her report on Washington Irving Elementary School. She has likely since started work on the local neighborhood districts.

Meyer-Reyerson asked who is able to help with research for the projects: Erika, Mary, and Mary Cheville.

3. Goals for the Commission – Payne is planning a report for city council meeting this coming Monday March 27th, 2011 on the goals of the commission.
 - Lindgren suggested item #5 on the agenda to reinstate the Historic Preservation Award and Waverly Historic Register. SMR asked how these may change do to the coming districts. Does the focus of the Registry change? Discussion ensued on potential changes and timetable for these projects.
 - Motion made by Lehmann to suspend the Waverly Historic Register until the process is complete regarding three Waverly Historic districts but continue to seek nominations for Historic Preservation Awards only.
 - Seconded by Lindgren, Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1
 - Lehmann suggested a facebook page for the commission. Meyer-Reyerson stated that the page is an easy set up but unless the commission actively adding to it the page will not maintain an audience.
 - Assistance with the research for the three districts projects.
 - Get more published on the completed salvage project.
 - More citywide signage for historic places.
 - Pursue a SW historic district.
 - Education programs for the community. (The consultants will be doing some of these as part of their contracts.) As well, the commission would like to work more closely with the Chamber in this effort.
 - Historic tour of homes in May – Historic Preservation Month.
4. May- National Preservation Month-
 - Meyer-Reyerson distributed copies of the proclamation from last year. Asked for comments and ideas. Motion made by Lindgren to submit a proclamation for 2011.
 - Meyer suggested a layout of a particular street and corresponding photos in a display at the library. The street is 2nd St. NW, both sides, from Bremer Ave. north to 3rd Ave. It was formerly called N. Elm St.

Council report: Absent

Staff report: SMR all can attend city council Monday 28th at 7pm at city hall. Zelle will be missed and the commission thanks Zelle for his service.

Chairperson's Report: none

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

The next meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission is scheduled for April 28th, 2011 at 6 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Waverly Public Library.