

Waverly Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

The Thursday, January 22, 2015, meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the Waverly Public Library Conference Room.

Commissioners present: Deborah Ackerson, Jim Hundley, Tom Hicks, Karen Lehmann, Don Meyer and Mary Meyer

Commissioners absent: Pete Newell

Council present: Wes Gade

City liaison present: Sarah Meyer-Reyerson

Visitors present: None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 4, 2014, meeting were approved with one correction.

Regular Business

1. ***Progress Report on the SW Historic District Survey***

Marlys Svendsen has not completed the site forms but believes she might be able to finish them by the September review deadline. If not, the deadline in March will work if the grant is amended to change the date. Meyer-Reyerson will request the exact boundaries of the district from Svendsen.

2. ***Preservation of the carriage step near 4th St and 2nd Ave SW***

Newell reported that Mike Cherry confirmed that the carriage step must be moved in order to preserve it when the widening of 4th St SW begins in the spring of 2015. Hundley will discuss relocating the stone with Mike Cherry.

3. ***Remaining HPC Budget for 2015***

The remaining funds for signage in the budget period ending June 30, 2015, is approximately \$2,132. The proposed HPC budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year is \$6,000.

4. ***Signage for the historic districts***

Brian Sullivan confirmed that toppers may be placed on the existing street signs. Colors for the signs were discussed. Lehmann and Mary Meyer will review old photos for design ideas, then Lehmann will request a mock-up from Prison Industries. Once the design, the number of signs required and the estimated cost have been determined, a presentation will be made to the City Council.

5. ***Signage for the Waverly Municipal Hydroelectric Powerhouse***

Don Meyer reported that the plaque will be installed at the powerhouse when weather permits.

6. ***2014 Certified Local Government (CLG) Annual Report for the State Historical Society of Iowa***

Meyer-Reyerson is completing the 2014 CLG Annual Report for Waverly to be submitted to the State Historical Society of Iowa.

7. ***Presentation to Waverly realtors about historic districts***

Don Meyer spoke to a group of Waverly realtors on January 21, 2015, about the formation of Waverly's historic districts, emphasizing FEMA's role in funding the surveys, and also the benefits of historic districts such as tax incentives and property price stabilization. The realtors

inquired whether tax benefits could be retroactive. They also wondered if a non-contributing property in an historic district could ever become a contributing property. Meyer-Reyerson will try to obtain the answers to their questions.

8. ***Celebration of the Harmon and LeValley Historic District during Historic Preservation Month***

A committee was formed to plan an event to celebrate the new historic district in May; the members are Don Meyer, Karen Lehmann, Deborah Ackerson and Mary Meyer. The date of the event will be Saturday, May 30, 2015.

Council Report

Gade reported that the City Council had been holding meetings to finalize the budget for 2015-16. He also noted that the concrete contractor for the 10th Avenue Project has failed to meet the construction deadlines and is now paying fines to the City. And he answered questions about the new hotel project in downtown Waverly.

Staff Report

No report.

Chairperson's Report

Hundley reported that the City has formulated a plan for the Farmer's Exchange building in South Riverside Park; Meyer-Reyerson will e-mail the plan to the HPC members. Hundley also suggested that Waverly might want to form its own historical society in addition to the Bremer County historical society. It will be a topic for future discussion.

The next meeting will be held on ***Thursday, February 26, 2015, at 6:00 pm*** at the Waverly Public Library Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Meyer, Secretary