

Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2021

Waverly Historic Preservation Commission

The Waverly Historic Preservation Commission met virtually on Monday, January 25, 2021, at 5:30 pm using the Zoom platform.

Commissioners present: Chair Karen Lehmann, Vice Chair Kris Brunkhorst, Commissioners Glenn Fenneman, Mary Meyer, Justin Jeffcoat Schedtler, Darius Robinson and Don Meyer
City Council Liaison present: Brian Birgen
City Staff Representative present: Isaac Pezley

1. **Call to order**—Chair Karen Lehmann called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.
2. **Approve Agenda**—Moved by Don Meyer, seconded by Kris Brunkhorst to approve. Motion passed.
3. **Approve November 2020 minutes**—Moved by Mary Meyer, seconded by Glenn Fenneman to approve. Motion passed.
4. **Receive Visitors/Public Comments**—No visitors were present.

Regular Business

1. **Green Bridge Memorial Discussion**—Karen reported that she and Don and Kris attended the January 4, 2021 City Council meeting where the Council voted to increase the City funding for the memorial from \$7,000 to \$10,000. The Council also passed a resolution recommending three components for the memorial—signage at the bridge site in Brookwood Park, a bronze plaque at South Riverside Park, and a stereoscope viewfinder also at South Riverside Park. The City committed their funding to the first two components, with any additional funding needed for the stereoscope accomplished through fundraising. Don Meyer moved and Darius Robinson seconded to proceed with all three components. Motion passed. Karen suggested we get the stereoscope project on Rebecca’s schedule (our contact for producing it) as soon as possible. Kris agreed to follow up with Rebecca. Kris also will check for any fundraising prospects on “you might be from Waverly” and the “Green Bridge” Facebook pages. Because the Bremer County Board of Supervisors built the bridge it was also suggested that they be contacted for a gift. Karen talked to Garret Riordan about saving the county plaque that currently exists on the bridge, so he is now aware of it. In regard to collecting donations, Karen talked to the Northeast Iowa Community Foundation about being the receiver of the gifts to allow donors to receive a charitable deduction. The City already has a fund with the Foundation. They would create a fundraising flyer for the project, an online giving portal, and would send the gift acknowledgment letters. There is an upfront setup fee of \$75, plus a 2% processing fee of the amount raised. Glenn Fenneman moved and Mary Meyer seconded to use the NE Iowa Community Foundation as our fundraising entity. Motion passed. Karen will check with Garret about possibly using a Leisure Services online account for Foundation business.
2. **Waverly Historic Register Awards 2020-21**—The wording of the plaque for Crosspoint Church was reviewed and approved as presented. Karen visited with the owner of 4 Queens and he is in favor of a Waverly Historic Register nomination. He will be working on that in the near future.

3. **Boost Co. Follow-up Actions**—Three options for a logo for our Commission were reviewed and discussed. Darius Robinson moved and Don Meyer seconded to use Option #3 which includes the outline of the house (also used on our historic district signs) with the wording “Waverly Historic Preservation Commission—Waverly, Iowa” beneath the house outline. Motion passed. Glenn gave a report from the Table Tents committee. The committee has not met since last meeting but he mentioned that The Printery in Waverly is researching acrylic holders to give us an idea of cost, once we know how many we need. We won’t be able to place the table tents until after the pandemic has subsided, but the committee will continue with planning.
4. **Waverly Design Committee**—This is a subcommittee of the Waverly Chamber and they have requested that a representative from our Commission attend their meetings. Kris will be the representative and Mary Meyer volunteered to be substitute representative when Kris is unable to attend. Don Meyer will give Mary’s email address to the Design Committee. We discussed prioritization of sites for historic signage that the Design Committee is discussing and we recommend that the railroad depot (currently 4 Queens) and the Farmers Exchange Building would be our priorities. The Design Committee is looking at signs that would include a limestone base similar to the limestone planters downtown.
5. **Planning for May Preservation Month Activities**—A planning committee was formed that includes Darius, Mary and Karen, with Kris and Justin helping as they are able. Kris will give the Commissioners a link to the google drive that includes the ideas generated last year as a starting point. The committee will consider our participation in the 175th anniversary of the state of Iowa as appropriate.
6. **2020 Annual Report**—Isaac asked the Commissioners to email him with the details of any training events/seminars we attended in 2020. Mary will send Isaac information on the awards we presented in 2020. Isaac will send a draft of the report to the Commissioners for review and comment before it is submitted to the state. The 2021 Action Plan was presented by Karen and reviewed. Consensus was given that the four items included were appropriate.

Reports

Council Report—Brian Birgen gave us several updates from the City Council. They are having their budget meeting this Saturday. They are discussing design ideas for the new Bremer Avenue bridge including a bump-out area that would provide a better view of the river. Brian asked us to give him any design ideas we may have. A decision on what to do with the Rail Trail Bridge is five years out. It is need of repair. Brian gave us the schedule for bridge inspections.

Staff Report—Isaac mentioned that he will check on possible CLG grants that would support funding for the Green Bridge memorial. He also mentioned that the City will be developing a new Land Use Plan led by the Planning and Zoning Commission. That is scheduled for this summer. He would like to have a representative from our Commission on that planning committee.

Adjournment:

Chair Karen Lehmann declared the meeting adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Don Meyer, Acting Secretary

Next meeting is scheduled for February 22, at 5:30 pm. The Commission agreed to continue meeting virtually using the Zoom platform.