

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – May 21, 2019– 4:30 P.M.
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall**

Ottesen called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Ottesen, Price, Miller, Hedrick, Rohret and Morehouse.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Stevens.

Others Present: Bob Neymeyer – Grout Museum, Pat Morrissey – City Council Representative and John Dornoff – Planning Staff.

Commissioners in Attendance at Payne AME Church: Ottesen, Hedrick, Rohret and Morehouse

Also in attendance: Rebecca Lawin McCarley – SPARK Consulting, Jerome Amos – Ward 4 City Council Member, Candy Streed – Silos and Smokestacks, and 5 citizens were present.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Morehouse, seconded by Price to approve the agenda of the May 21, 2019 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Hedrick, seconded by Morehouse to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting. Motions carried unanimously. .

Hearings

Approval of the Historic Neighborhood Maps

Dornoff presented the maps and noted that because there is no individual homes on the National Register of Historic Places the map of Highland currently looks a little bare but will eventually add significant homes in the area.

Motion made by Morehouse, seconded by Hedrick to approve the Historic Neighborhood Maps. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

1. Main Street

The design council did 5 reviews including signage and other items.

Friday Loo's have started and will be running through the summer.

Flowers went up this week and they are looking for volunteers to water and to donate for the the flowers.

My Waterloo days will be coming up soon also.

2. Silos and Smokestacks.

No Report.

3. Grout Museum

Thomas Zahn and Associates have been working with the Grout in connection with the Civil Rights project.

Dornoff noted that he and Noel Anderson had been in contact with Billie Bailey about creating a book once all the projects are done. Since the projects are funded by State and Federal grants Dornoff checked with Paula Mohr to see if that would be allowed. Mohr stated that all the information from the studies are considered public documents so the books could be written so long as the consultants are given proper credit.

4. Building Update

Dornoff noted that there the Foster building is getting interest and may be redeveloped.

Morrissey said that he had heard rumors that the Rath Building was going to be demolished but Dornoff said that the city has been talking with developers to redevelop it. Morrissey also noted that there is \$80,000 in the CIP for the Dunsmore House.

5. Project Update

The City Council approved recommending approval of nominating the Walnut Neighborhood to the National Register of Historic Places. The State Nomination Review Committee will be reviewing nominations on June 14th in Des Moines.

6. Highland

Miller asked if the Highland Neighborhood received any money from the CIP to which Dornoff answered no.

Discussion Items/Possible Actin Items

1. Banquet 2019

The banquet had another record turnout of between 40 and 50 people this year.

2. School Art Project

There was only one project turned in and the student attended private school. Commissioners discussed that there seemed to be more excitement from when the elementary school students did

it. Next year need to get the flyers out when the students start the 2nd semester.

3. Library Meeting and moving the October meeting.

Dornoff stated that he has asked Andrew Ball from AHTS Architects to present his historic tax credit presentation during the commission's Library presentation. Due to scheduling conflicts it would be easier if the presentation could be October 8th and the historic commission meeting be moved to that date a week earlier than normal.

It was moved by Rohret, seconded by Price to move the October meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission from October 15th to October 8th. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Preservation Iowa

Preservation Iowa Summit will be from June 6 to June 8th, 2019.

Dornoff will attend on June 6th including a CLG roundtable.

Dornoff noted that the commission can reimburse the registration for members of the commission. Morrissey asked why the city does not reimburse the commission members for all expenses.

5. Grants

Dornoff noted that the CLG grants will be coming up soon and once the presentation is done tonight hopefully the commission will have a better idea what the next steps should be. Morrissey asked about other areas such as Church Row to which Dornoff noted that the entire Church Row area would cost about \$450,000 but it could be done in sections like the triangle.

6. Design Guidelines

Now that the banquet is over it is time to start looking at updated the Design Guidelines again.

7. City Owned Properties/Demo List

A large number of demolitions are occurring at the present time.

8. Action Plan

Dornoff noted that one of the items that has not been done on the action list is working with the schools to do presentations and if these could be done in fall, that would open the door to next year's Art Contest.

9. Website Update

Dornoff said that the maps that were approved tonight have been added to the website.

10. Publications and Maps

Dornoff said he will working on the next set of maps and publications in the next few months.

Other Discussion:

Dornoff said that back in the October meeting some accusations were brought against the commission by a certain citizen. Dornoff and Noel Anderson discussed the situation with the state and here are the responses.

One of the allegations was that the city lost its CLG status in 2012. This is not true, and in fact the City of Waterloo is doing better than most of the other CLG's in the state. In 2010 the state never received the annual CLG annual report and in 2013 the commission did not have enough training but neither of these things would cause the commission to lose its status.

Another allegation was that the commission has not met its requirements for the CLG Grant project in process. While the project is not completed and some hours are not included the volunteer and staff hours are almost double of that required in the grant.

Further the person in question is not working for the state and is not contracted with them to be an advisor on their Civil Rights project.

Meeting moved to Payne AME Church

Rebecca Lawin McCarley of SPARK Consulting presented the research that has been accumulated over the past year as part of the project.

Some points and recommendations:

In June, 1913 the Time Tribune coined the term "Smoky Row" for the area due to the gambling and bootlegging that was occurring since the City of Waterloo passed prohibition in 1912.

In 1914 the areas was "cleaned up" and residents objected to the area being called "Smoky Row" due to the connections with illicit activity.

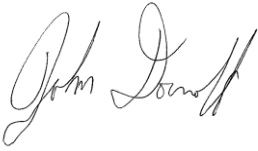
It was also noted that a majority of the residents in the area from the time it was developed were born in the United States.

One of the recommendations is to better document African American history in the area and to expand the survey to the north and east since as it stands now there is not enough left in the area to create a historic district.

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Dornoff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "D".

John Dornoff
Planner I