

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING – July 19, 2022– 4:30 P.M.**  
**The meeting was held in the Mollenhoff Conference Room at City Hall**

Chairperson Ottesen called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Commission Members present were: Ed Ottesen, Nick Hedrick, Susan Price, Mathew Gilbert, and Terry Stevens.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Hector Salamanca Arroyo and Ivan Valtchev.

Others present were: John Dornoff and Lexi Blank – Planning Staff; Ed Gallagher – Grout Museum Liaison; and Jonathan Grieder – City Council Liaison.

**Approval of Agenda**

***Motion made by Hedrick, seconded by Price to approve the agenda of the July 19, 2022, regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Approval of Minutes**

***Motion made by Price, seconded by Stevens to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Oral Presentations**

No Oral Presentations

**Hearings**

**1. Request by the City of Waterloo for a Certificate of Economic Hardship to demo a house at 928 Mulberry Street.**

Dornoff went over the report and mentioned the building has not been occupied since at least 2000. It was also noted that the building was authorized for the fire department to use for practice in the past.

The Commission stated there are structural issues with the house due to water damage and the structure is open to the elements.

Dornoff responded to a question of what the lot will be used for by mentioning that David Deeds, who owns the house to the north, plans to build a garage on the lot.

Commission was excited to see the demolition of this house improve the looks of the neighborhood and see the property back on the tax roll.

Gilbert asked if there were any historical items that could be saved from the property. Dornoff said the house was empty and the only architectural element to save would be the trim along the

roof line on the front of the house. The Commission was interested in saving that piece and selling to an interested party.

*Motion made by Hedrick, seconded by Stevens to recommend approval of the Certificate of Economic Hardship. Motion carried unanimously.*

### **Building Consultation**

None

### **Reports**

#### **1. Main Street**

Chairperson Ottesen reported that the Design Review Board approved signage for 324 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street. A project approved included the changes to the cell phone equipment on the Waterloo Building. Fridayloo is being held Friday's 5:30pm to 9:30pm.

#### **2. Silos and Smokestacks.**

Discussion on finding another individual to present on Silos and Smokestacks.

#### **3. Grout Museum**

Gallagher stated that the Garden Tour is coming up and the Historic House Tour will be held August 27th. He also encourages everyone to visit the Planetarium. Renovations to move the main entrance upstairs to the doors that face the parking lot will be starting in September and are predicted to end in March. The Grout is working to implement a Mural for African American History in the community.

#### **4. Building Update**

No Report

#### **5. Project Update**

The Commission reviewed the historical markers from the consultants. It was asked how the markers would be mounted and where they would be located on the properties. Price noted she found the markers informative. Gilbert mentioned holding a ribbon cutting ceremony/dedication ceremony to celebrate these properties and the Historic Commission. Hedrick suggested having a theme with the markers and tying them into the theme established with Main Street using the same font styles. Stevens mentioned using the African American colors (red, green, and black) and adding an image of someone, so the community would be able to relate to the markers more.

A motion was made by Stevens and seconded by Price to approve the historic markers concepts.

#### **6. Highland**

Hedrick stated that the installation of the new windows on Brock Weliver's home has begun.

## **7. Walnut**

Gilbert noted that Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 is National Night Out in the Walnut Neighborhood. There will be a tour of the Walnut Street Baptist Church with food and music and it is a great way to meet neighbors. Habitat is doing well building relationships in the Walnut and Church Row neighborhoods. They are also working on a survey of the neighborhoods, called Flourishing Neighborhood Index. with a group out of Atlanta. 415 Collective will be holding meals in September, October, and November and Gilbert stated that would be a great opportunity for the Historic Commission to speak on their work. Gilbert mentioned the grocery store has been finalized and has broken ground.

### **Discussion Items/Possible Action Items**

#### **1. Council Workshop Recap**

Chairperson Ottesen gave an overview of the workshop and stated he thought their goal of informing the City Council about the Historic Preservation Commission was achieved. Grieder also thought the session was helpful and the next steps for the Commission would be to come up with a budget for expenses they may want the city to help with. He also noted they should be detailed in their next work session with City Council. A report with an update from the Historic Preservation Commission on their recent actions to council once a quarter was recommended by Grieder.

Discussion about presenting ideas for future uses of the Rath Administration Building and the Dunsmore House to Vandewalle Associates.

#### **2. ACHP/HUD Award**

Blank went over the award and asked the Commission if they would be interested in nominating a group for the award. Hedrick mentioned nominating Habitat for their work in the Walnut Neighborhood. The Commission agreed Habitat would be a good group to nominate.

#### **3. School Project**

Stevens noted she is working to build the School Art Project into the curriculum with the schools. Grieder advised to get in contact with the schools early August, so they have time to review. Gilbert thought the School Art Project may be a good opportunity for Life Lab, which is a program the schools implement to get the students life experiences and introduce them to peers with similar interests.

#### **4. Main Street Waterloo Collaboration**

No Report

#### **5. Goals and Action Plan**

No Report

**Discussion Items:**

There was no additional discussion.

**Adjournment**

*Chairperson Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lexi Blank". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lexi Blank  
Planner I