

WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING – August 16, 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, Hector Salamanca Arroyo, Ivan Valtchev, and Susan Price.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Nick Hedrick, Mathew Gilbert, and Terry Stevens

Others present were: John Dornoff and Lexi Blank – Planning Staff; Ed Gallagher – Grout Museum Liaison; Jonathan Grieder – City Council Liaison, Brock Weliver – Waterloo Fire Marshall and Cole Weliver – Highland Resident.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Valtchev, seconded by Price to approve the agenda of the August 16, 2022, regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Valtchev, seconded by Price to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2022 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Oral Presentations

No Oral Presentations

Hearings

1. Civil Rights Project consultation with Thomas R. Zahn and Associates

Dornoff explained the consultant had the wrong date and would not be attending the meeting, therefore there was no report and nothing to vote on.

Building Consultation

None

Reports

1. Main Street

Chairperson Ottesen reported that the Design Review Board approved one sign and other agenda items were postponed. There is one more Fridayloo scheduled in September and there will be a food truck on Main Street September 17, 2022. Other seasonal events will be happening over the

next few months that will be great volunteer opportunities. Ottesen also mentioned Experience Waterloo will be taking over Waterloo Days.

2. Silos and Smokestacks.

Blank noted the IowaEats Festival being held at the Waterloo Convention Center April 1, 2023. Two funding opportunities are being awarded for small and large projects.

3. Grout Museum

Gallagher stated that the remodeling project at the Grout Museum will start in September and the museum will continue to stay open. The Historic Homes tour is from 1:00pm to 5:00pm on Saturday, August 27th and transportation between homes is not provided.

4. Project Update

No Report

5. Highland

No Report

6. Walnut

Valtchev noted that the grocery store does appear to be progressing.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Items

1. School Art Project 2023

No Report

2. Main Street Waterloo Collaboration

Chairperson Ottesen noted the Veterans Way Project will be a good project for the Historic Commission to get involved in.

3. Other Collaborations

Price mentioned the Cedar Falls Historic Commission only has 3 members and are looking for more members. Price also noted they would be interested in collaborating at one of each other's meeting. They meet the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm. The commission is holding a walking tour in Cedar Falls on August 18th.

4. City-Owned Properties and Demo List

Valtchev asked about ways to prevent the demolishing of homes like 928 Mulberry Street. Dornoff responded with most of the time the city does not acquire the house until it is too late to

save the home and they are often acquired from tax sale or because the owner of the home has passed. Grieder noted there are CDBG funds that help homes be repaired before needing demolished, however there is more need than funds available. Salamanca Arroyo asked if the home could have been used by the fire department for training like it had been before. Weliver noted the DNR approves controlled burn sites. Valtchev asked how the city is introduced to dilapidated homes in Waterloo to which Dornoff stated code enforcement identifies the dilapidated homes around the community. Valtchev suggested boarding up dilapidated homes in a more appealing way.

5. Maps

No Report

6. Goals and Action Plans

Ottesen requested a schedule with upcoming grants for the year. It was also mentioned to start reviewing and updating the Goals and Action Plans no later than the October meeting.

Discussion Items:

Blank mentioned the Habitat for Humanity Sites and Bites Tour on August 16 and August 17 is a good way to see what Habitat has accomplished and what they are working on in the community.

Design Guidelines:

Discussion about what the design guidelines are and reviewing an outline of items next month.

Adjournment

Chairperson Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lexi Blank
Planner I