

WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 17, 2021– 4:30 P.M.
Meeting was held in the Mollenhoff Conference room at Waterloo City Hall.

Hedrick called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Ed Ottesen, Nick Hedrick, Susan Price, and Matthew Gilbert.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Terry Stevens and Alice Rohret.

Others present: John Dornoff – Planning Staff; Pat Morrissey – City Council Liaison; El Gallagher – Grout Museum Liaison; and Lee Byrd.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Hedrick, seconded by Price to approve the agenda of the August 17, 2021 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Price, seconded by Stevens to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2021 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Oral Presentations

None

Hearings

1. Decision on whether to have the banquet in September.

Dornoff noted that there is only 6 weeks until the banquet which is not a lot of time prepare and there is uncertainty about what the new couple of months will bring. Dornoff also noted that normally the banquet is held in May which is National Preservation month.

Hedrick noted that in the last week his business has lost 5 banquet bookings due to rising COVID cases.

Motion made by Price, seconded by Stevens to recommend canceling the 2021 Awards Banquet and reschedule during its regular May time period. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Historic Award Nominations

Withdrawn due to previous decision.

Building Consultation

Bryd noted that a guy tried to break into her house and she is looking to replace her side door that is not visible to the front with a more secure door. Dornoff noted if it is not visible to the front of the house he can do staff approval of the request.

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen reported that Main Street had a couple of design reviews this past month. There is one more Fridayloo left in the season but Main Street is planning for multiple events for the holiday season.

2. Silos and Smokestacks.

No Report

3. Grout Museum

Gallagher reported Historic Home Tour is set for August 28th, some home owners want people to wear masks but no decision has been made if they will be required for the entire tour but the Grout wants to have consistency so that all homes either do or do not require masks. The planetarium has a new projector.

4. Building Update

Dornoff noted the building at Commercial Street and West 4th kitty corner across from the Convention Center has been purchased and the owner is looking to improve the building.

5. Project Update

No updated.

6. Highland

Hedrick reported that National Night out was a success for Highland. In addition there has been many homes sold in the district recently and Hedrick stops at every home and talk to the new neighbors about the neighborhood and historic commission. There will be a block party in Highland on September 24th.

7. Walnut

Gilbert stated that National Night out went well and there was a vision tent with arts and crafts and discussion of the Walnut Baptist Church.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Items

1. HPC Awards Banquet 2021

Will start planning for the May, 2022 banquet.

2. Possible Award Winners

No action taken.

3. School Project

Gilbert made some suggestions to improve the project and will work with Stevens. Gilbert suggested at the next meeting to have time set aside

4. Main Street Collaboration

Ottesen noted that Tour D’Loo which is coming up on October 14th, and although the locations have not been determined, it would be an excellent opportunity to collaborate with volunteer efforts.

5. Other Collaborations

Dornoff had a list of organizations that the commission had previously decided to try to work on connections and collaborations with.

Gilbert stated that he will work with the Youth Arts Council and Youth City Council to educate them about the goals of the organization.

Hedrick stated that he is on the Experience Waterloo board so will work with them.

Gilbert suggested contacting the African-American Museum.

Ottesen is going to contact the Cedar Valley Historical Society.

Discussion about contacting the Cedar Falls Historic Preservation Commission and the Cedar Falls Historical Society. It was also suggested to contact the UNI History Department.

6. Updating Goals and Action Plan

Gilbert noted that the commission needs to start with Goal E and work toward Goal A.

Time will be set aside at the next meeting to work on the Goals and strategic plan.

7. Demolitions/City-Owned Properties

Dornoff noted that the Dilapidated Housing meeting has been moved to the Third Thursday of the month.

Morrissey asked if there been any action on the Dunsmore House and wants to see people who buy houses on tax sale but who leave the houses to rot such as 1325 West 4th restricted from buying homes.

Design Guidelines

No Action.

Other Discussion:

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:32p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Dornoff".

John Dornoff
Planner I