

WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 17, 2021– 4:30 P.M.
The meeting was held in the Mollenhoff Conference Room of City Hall

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, Terry Stevens (arrived at 4:39), Alice Rohret, Susan Price, and Matthew Gilbert (arrived at 4:39)

Commission Member(s) absent were: Nick Hedrick.

Others present: John Dornoff – Planning Staff; Ed Gallagher – Grout Museum Liaison; Pat Morrissey – City Council Liaison; and 2 citizens.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Rohret, seconded by Price to approve the agenda of the November 16, 2021, regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Price, seconded by Rohret to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2021 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Oral Presentations

Pat Morrissey thank the commission for letting him be a part of the commission activities for the last 8 years. He also stated that the commission needs to have communication with the new council members and get support for the commission including making it a department within Planning and Zoning with its own budget.

Morrissey also noted that there is a new Church Row Alliance working with Habitat and is working on many homes in the area. They are looking at ways to acquire the house at 1325 West 4th Street so it can be restored.

Hearings

1. Request by Micala Lorenz and Michael Knapp for a Certificate of Appropriateness for a vinyl fence located at 1141 Independence.

Dornoff read the staff report.

The applicants stated that the neighbors to the west have a vinyl fence that would match theirs to which Dornoff noted that the neighbor's fence not only did not come to the commission but did not have a building permit.

The applicants also noted that there are two homes across the street that have vinyl fences in the front yard which Dornoff noted that since the fences in the front yard are shorter than 4-feet they

would not need a building permit.

Members discussed the fence.

Motion made by Stevens, seconded by Rohret to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Nomination to the Iowa Most Endangered List 2022.

Dornoff went over a list of the buildings that have already been nominated to the list. Commissioners discussed which building to nominate.

Motion made by Price, seconded by Stevens to nominate the Dunsmore House to Iowa's Most Endangered Building List 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Charles Pearson – Discussion of local designation for neighborhood and personal home.

Charles Pearson was not present.

Motion made by Price, seconded by Rohret to table the item. Motion carried unanimously.

Building Consultation

None

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen reported 5 items on agenda with 2 of the items being tabled due to a lack of information. The flowers have been taken down for the year with holiday decorations going up. Main Street is currently purchasing new decorations.

2. Silos and Smokestacks.

No Report

3. Grout Museum

Gallagher stated that the new planetarium projector is ready to go and the Grout's is one of only 3 in Iowa that is not part of a University. Exhibit on the Pacific portion of World War II goes through the end of the year. Stevens noted that the commercial for the planetarium was very good.

4. Building Update

No Update

5. Project Update

No Update

6. Highland

No Update

7. Walnut

New homes and home repairs are ongoing in the neighborhood plus there are micro-grants available to fix up homes. There will be a meal served at Harvest Vineyard Church on Monday from 5 pm to 6:30 pm.

There will also be a free brunch on December 4th at the 1st Presbyterian Church hosted by the 415 Walnut Collective.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Items

1. HPC Awards Banquet 2022

Dornoff went over a list of items to be done and the dates they need to be done for next year's banquet.

2. School Project

Stevens stated the commission should get the fliers to the school by the first of the year since it can take up to 3 weeks to get them translated.

3. Main Street Collaboration

Ottesen mentioned again the need for volunteers.

4. Other Collaborations

No Report

5. Demolitions/City-Owned Properties

Dornoff noted that there was no Dilapidated Housing meeting last month due to the Mayor's State of the City Address.

6. Goals and Action Plan

No Report

Other Discussion:

Cancellation of the December 21st, 2021 meeting.

Dornoff stated that he will not be available on December 21st and noted it is extremely hard to get a quorum the week of Christmas so he suggested canceling the meeting.

Motion made by Rohret, seconded by Gilbert to cancel the December 21st, 2021 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission for the year ending December 31, 2022.


Dornoff noted that Ottesen has been serving as the Chairperson since he came to the city and that other people need to set up since technically Ottesen should have only served for only two or three years.

Motion made by Price, seconded by Rohret to nominate Ed Ottesen as the Chairperson and Nick Hedrick as Vice-Chairperson for the period ending on December 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Dornoff
Planner II