

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 16, 2010– 5:00 P.M.
1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

Chairperson Berry called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Berry, Morgan, Ottesen, Olsson, Potter and Quirk.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Andera, Brockway and Newton.

Others Present: Sue Pearson and Kim Vandeeest Waterloo Public Library, Orin Miller and Heidi Honkola

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Potter, seconded by Morgan to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2010 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Potter, seconded by Quirk to approve the agenda adding representatives from the Waterloo public library and Heidi Honkola to speak before the other reports were given. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

1. Waterloo Public Library

Sue Pearson of the Waterloo Public Library noted that the Library would be conducting a genealogy and local history gala from April 5-9. Kim Vandeeest of the Library noted that the featured speaker would be Megan Smoleniyk who has previously appeared in the New York Times and on the Today Show due to her work in genealogy. Vandeeest noted that classes on how to use genealogical databases and a five-hour lock in at the end of the week. Vandeeest noted that most of the classes would be attended by Library patrons and that the Library has a similar event that occurs in October as the month of October is National Genealogy Month. Pearson noted that sessions have been attended by about 100 people in the past and provides those involved to show a positive face to the community. Pearson invited the Historic Preservation Commission to participate and suggested possible activities such as researching the history of historic buildings, a Q and A panel, a permit process class or something similar in nature. Sue noted that an off site tour would also be a possibility and recommended the possibility of inviting a representative from the State Historic Preservation Office.

Potter noted that it sounded like a great program but noted that there would not be much time to come up with an activity. Quirk agreed noting that there was not much time, but added that we would definitely participate in the event in October if the Commission could not help with this one. Quirk noted that we would try to participate, and try to get the State Historic Preservation Office involved.

2. 1926 Franklin

Heidi Honkola of 1926 Franklin spoke noting that the home she lived in was a very unique property and she wished to place it on the National Register of Historic Places. Orin Miller, Honkola's neighbor noted that he had been doing a great deal of research on the property and found that the property was designed and built by Frank Noss who was a brick layer and architect. Miller noted that Noss built a number of homes in the area including a stone home on University Ave in Cedar Falls and another at the corner of Bryon and Hammond. Miller noted that this home was unique in the fact it was one of the first homes to use radiant heat. Honkola noted that she had contacted the bricklayers association and noted that Noss was at one point president of the bricklayers association in the area. Miller noted that Noss had used the residence on 1926 Franklin to construct Masonry levels and shipped them across the US. Poll noted to the Commission that according to the Historic surveys that had been completed on the home that it was individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Quirk noted that this property would be a great addition to the Register, but asked Honkola what she would like from the Commission. Honkola noted that she would like any information on how to get the home on the Register and any assistance that the Commission would provide to help her cause as she was hoping to use the incentives to make updates to the home. Poll noted that she would have to submit an application to the State Historic Preservation Office, and that these applications were quite in-depth and that in the past most properties that made the list in Waterloo used a private consultant to prepare the application and provided her with a list of consultants. Potter noted that some citizens had completed the process on their own and gave Heidi the contact information for them. Berry noted that he was happy that she was trying to get the home on the register, but also noted that funds available for upgrading private residences were scarce, and very little had been available in the past. Poll noted that he would provide Heidi with a copy on a completed application.

3. Main Street

Ottesen gave the Main Street report, noting that they were currently involved in fundraising. Ottesen noted that they are taking applications for an events coordinator which was a full time position used to coordinate event and get sponsors. Ottesen noted that taste d' loo sold 204 tickets.

4. Silos and Smokestacks

No report this month.

5. Grout Museum

Olson noted that the Grout received a grant for the Russell Renslar House and the doors and shutters were being repaired by Stone House, a new restoration company.

6. Rath Administration Building Project Update

No report this month.

Public Hearings

No Public Hearings this Month.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Items

1. Annual Awards Ceremony

Poll noted that the award recipients should be limited to two or three recipients as there were too many the previous year. Quirk noted that the ceremony should take place in May, as that is National Historic Preservation Month. Potter noted that she would attempt to have the Courier put an article in the paper. Morgan suggested that we try to include a picture and past winners. Potter noted that she would try but it is up to the Courier. The commission agreed to attempt to have the ceremony on May 27 with a nomination deadline of April 15. Potter noted that the ballroom in the elks club was redone and would be a great place to hold the event and that she would check and see if it would work. Morgan noted that the invitations should be very professional. Potter noted that she would like to see a nomination form available on the website.

2. Historical Preservation Ordinance and Guidelines Revision

Due to the time the Commission decided to review the guidelines and discuss potential changes at the next Committee meeting on March 10.

Hearing no further discussion chairperson Berry adjourned the meeting at 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Poll,
Associate Planner