

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 15, 2008– 5:00 P.M.
MEETING ROOM A, WATERLOO PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Chairperson Olsson called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Those in attendance were: Anderson (5:28 p.m.), Berry, Morgan, Olsson, Ottesen, Potter, and Quirk.

Those absent were: Brockway and Newton.

Also present was staff member Tim Andera and Brenda Durban of Earth Tech.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Potter, seconded by Quirk to approve the minutes of the February 19th, 2008 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Quirk, seconded by Potter to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen gave the Main Street report noting that East 4th Street will be under construction this year from the Cedar River to Franklin Street, with there being a total reconstruction of the street, as well as the sidewalks, creating a new streetscape. Ottesen noted that a block will be constructed one by one, and Main Street will work with business owners along the corridor to ensure that access to their businesses is still available during the construction. Ottesen also noted that plans are being prepared for the Cinco de Mayo celebration, as well as the annual downtown cleanup.

2. Silos and Smokestacks

No report this month.

3. Grout

Olsson noted that the Grout will close from mid-April to sometime in the fall for the purpose of redoing the exhibits in the museum, with the grand re-opening in November.

Public Hearings

- 1. Request for comment from the Waterloo Historical Preservation Commission on the draft Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration, State Historical Office, City of Waterloo and the Iowa Department of Transportation for the adverse effect upon two potentially eligible houses at 1252 and 1302 Logan Avenue as a part of the redevelopment of the Highway 63 Corridor between Franklin Street and Donald Street.**

Andera noted as a part of the Section 106 process, the parties involved in this project have requested that the Commission provide comments and feedback on the draft Memorandum of Agreement.

Morgan questioned if the property owners of the two home have been notified yet of possible acquisition or demolition. Durban noted that the property owners have not been notified yet to her knowledge, and the Iowa Department of Transportation would be handling the acquisitions for the Highway 63 project. Durban also noted that environmental documentation needs to be completed first, and once that is completed, IDOT will begin contacting property owners to begin negotiations. Ottesen noted that appraisals of the two homes in question will need to be done, and it will be some time before the property owners would need to be out of their houses. Morgan noted that she would like to see a timeline of when the property owners would need to be out of their homes. Durban noted until the environmental documentation is completed, she cannot pinpoint an exact timeline at this moment.

Quirk questioned what the ages are of the property owners are for both 1252 and 1302 Logan Avenue. Durban noted she was unsure of their ages, but believed they were elderly residents.

Morgan questioned if construction crews are expecting to find artifacts during the construction period, noting that tribes that once lived in this area have been notified. Durban noted that this is standard language incorporated into federally funded Memorandum of Agreements, just in case some artifacts are found during the project. Durban noted that over time, there have multiple instances of ground disturbance in the area, and it is very unlikely that any artifacts will be found. Durban also noted that SHPO has already approved of the submitted draft Memorandum of Agreement.

Motion made by Quirk, seconded by Berry to approve the draft Memorandum of Agreement, subject to property owners being notified of possible move due to the expansion project, as well as being notified prior to public announcement of the project. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

1. Iowa City Historic Preservation Handbook – Conservation and Historic District Review Process – Sections 2.0 – 2.7

Tabled until May meeting.

2. Historical Preservation Ordinance Revision

Tabled until May meeting.

3. Kingbard Walking Tour

Potter noted that since the February 19, 2008 meeting, there have been 3 meetings held in relation to the tour. Potter noted that she has spoken with Ryan Malecek, a neighborhood resident. Potter noted that Malecek would be sending a letter to home owners in the neighborhood to garner interest for the walking tour. Potter noted that the goal is to have the tour in August, and at this time, the tour is moving forward.

4. Historical Preservation Annual Awards Ceremony

Andera noted that he has gotten the Snowden house reserved for the ceremony on May 29, 2008. Commission members noted that they have come up with the final list of individuals to receive an award for historic preservation.

- 1) Doris Ruffridge – 901-907 Sycamore Street, mix-used building.
- 2) Randy and Patrice Pilkington – 229 Alta Vista Avenue, residential property
- 3) Elks Club – 407 East Park Avenue, commercial property
- 4) Waterloo Women’s Club – for the continued use and preservation of the Snowden House
- 5) Jim Walsh – Multiple renovations of downtown properties
- 6) Cedar Valley Historical Society

Andera noted that he would get an article published in the paper to make others in the community aware of the ceremony.

Hearing no further discussion chairperson Olsson adjourned the meeting at 5:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Andera
Associate Planner
Staff to the Commission