

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 19, 2011– 5:00 P.M.
1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

Berry called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Andera, Berry, Olsson, Ottesen, Potter, Toepfer, Linda and Quirk.

Commission Member(s) absent were: none

Others Present: Poll- Staff to the Commission

Approval of Agenda

Poll introduced Kathy Linda as the newest member of the Historic Preservations Commission. Linda noted that she was happy to be a part of the Commission.

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

Approval of Minutes

Quirk noted some grammatical errors. Poll noted that he would make the appropriate corrections.

Motion made by Quirk, seconded by Olsson to approve the amended minutes of the March 15, 2011, regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings

None

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen noted that Main Street had recently celebrated its 15th anniversary adding that 85 people bought tickets. Ottesen noted that the Friends of Main Street program was kicking off, and that giving donations to Main Street would give discounts on downtown stores. Ottesen noted that the Chamber of Commerce was giving up management of My Waterloo Days and that Main Street was bidding to take over management of the event as well as the Expo area.

Andera noted that a gaming grant has been received to make updates on the Public Market building.

2. Silos and Smokestacks

No report given.

3. Grout Museum

No report given.

4. Rath Administration Building Project Update

Andera noted that the developer is still working with the State to recognize phased projects. Andera noted that the state has concerns with “claw backs” which would result if the state was forced to take back tax credits they issued for a phased projects where the later stages are not completed.

5. Highway 63 Expansion

Poll noted that there was no new information and that the developer had acquired the needed lots from the City.

6. Proposed Ordinance

Poll noted that the next step would be to have the Ordinance recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission, and noted he would have Chris Wendland apply finishing touches to the wording.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Items

1. Annual Historic Preservation Awards

Poll questioned who the Commission felt should be the winners of this years awards. Potter noted that the Greek Orthodox Church and Newton’s should receive the awards. Ottesen noted that the Landau’s had ties to a number of historic buildings in the City including Doey Joeys, the Russell Lampson and now Newtons. Potter suggested that the family receive the award.

Potter noted that the event would start at 5:00 pm and the ceremony would take place at 5:30 in the Black’s Building. Potter noted that people should bring food. Gale noted that she would bring fruit. Berry noted that he could bring some wine if needed. Potter noted that she would send out invitations.

2. Local nomination of Washington and Lincoln Parks as Historic Landmarks

Quirk noted she would once again talk to Paul Hutting with Leisure Services to get more information about the parks. Poll noted that he had found the abstract for Lincoln Park and he also provided a copy of the City plat showing the parks. Quirk noted that she would have a joint meeting with Leisure Services about the possibility of these parks becoming local landmarks.

Berry noted that a pond/landscaping club is present in Waterloo and suggested that they may help maintain the Washington Park pond. Berry noted that the current configuration has the pond water coming from City water lines and draining into the river. Berry noted that a system that recycles the water might be more feasible.

3. Review the National Register nomination of the Waterloo East Commercial Historic District located in downtown Waterloo

Poll noted that the Commission had received two nominations for the National Registrar and that the first of which was for the East Commercial District. Andera noted that the district was created at the behest of Jim Walsh, noting that several of his building would be within the district. Andera noted that the President Hotel on Clark Street would not be included in the district.

Linda questioned the term “good” that was used in the application and how the term relates to historic preservation. Poll noted that commonly used verbage used included “poor, average, good and excellent”.

Ottesen noted that there would be a possibility of expansion to the district as there were so properties that could be included in the future but noted the district is worthy of being added to the National Register.

Ottesen noted that as his place of employment lies within the proposed district, he would abstain from voting.

Motion made by Potter, seconded by Linda to recommend approval of the National Register nomination of the Waterloo East Commercial Historic District located in downtown Waterloo. Motion carried 7-0 with Ottesen abstaining.

4. Review the National Register nomination of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church located at 633 Walnut Street.

Berry noted that he had some concerns with this application. Berry noted that limestone was used on the façade of the church and was not listed on the materials included for the church. Berry expressed concern that the dates used may be inaccurate and questioned what became of the original church. Poll noted that this application was for the church building and whether or not the building was historic in nature.

Potter questioned what the role of the Commission. Ottesen noted that the role of the Commission was to determine if the property in question met the criteria to be placed on the National Register. Andera questioned if the Commission felt the church building qualified for the National Register.

5. *Motion made by Quirk, seconded by Potter to recommend approval of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church located at 633 Walnut Street. Motion carried unanimously.*

6. Guidelines Revision

Berry noted that due to time constraints, further Guidelines Revisions could be made next month.

Adjournment

Andera noted that we now had more control over the City website and if one of the Commissioners wanted to put together some material, he could make sure a page for Historic Preservation was created. Linda noted that she could help write information for the site.

Motion made by Quirk, seconded by Toepfer to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Poll,
Associate Planner