

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 16, 2009– 5:00 P.M.
WATERLOO PUBLIC LIBRARY – 405 COMMERCIAL ST**

Chairperson Quirk called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

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

Commission Member(s) absent were: Andera, Brockway, Morgan and Potter

Also present was staff member Adam Poll.

Approval of Minutes

Quirk noted that the minutes from May 19, 2009 meeting regarding the “Request by Susan Smith for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace wood lap siding and cedar shake siding with new vinyl siding at 1140 Independence Ave.” should note that the replacement ceramic fiberboard siding should visually match the cedar shake siding that it would be replacing. Poll noted the change would be made.

Motion made by Olsson, seconded by Ottesen to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2009 regular meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Olsson, seconded by Ottesen to approve agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen gave a report on Main Street activities. He noted that Darren Beck had gone through preliminary review for signage on the Black’s Building and could open as soon as the end of July. He also noted a review for a banner for a new hair studio downtown. A review was underway for a proposed pole type building for overhead door on 6th Street and Commercial Street.

Ottesen mentioned that the downtown flowers were up and Sycamore crossing was now open.

2. Silos and Smokestacks

Newton gave a report that Silos and Smokestacks was sponsoring a information session covering Americorps National Civilian Corps that would be help on July 14th and that she had additional information for anyone interested.

3. Grout Museum

Olsson reported that the Grout Museum was conducting a search for buildings to participate in the Old House Fair on August 22nd.

4. Rath Administration Report

No report this month.

5. Salvage Barn

Poll reported he and Andera would have a meeting with Rod Scott on June 17th to discuss any progress pertaining to the salvage barn idea.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Item

1. Historical and Architectural Reconnaissance Survey for 2008 Flood Projects in Waterloo, Black Hawk County

Poll gave report that FEMA had completed a Historical and Architectural Survey for the areas that were the most heavily effected by the Flood of 2008. This survey included Sans Souci Island and other areas that contained homes that would have to be moved or demolished.

Poll stated that the purpose of this study was to determine which properties in the flood-affected areas were part of a potential National Register of Historic Preservation (NHRP) District, and of these contributing properties, which ones faced demolition, and what steps could be taken to mitigate the loss of these properties.

The study identified 2 structures individually NHRP eligible and 12 properties as contributing to the district. These properties would have to be moved or demolished according to FEMA regulations, and because of the loss of these historic properties, FEMA would undertake treatment measures to mitigate the adverse effects that this would cause.

2. FEMA MOA activities-Potential historic preservation projects to be included under agreement

Poll noted that he, Quirk and Andera attended a meeting that had occurred that on June 12, 2009 to start the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) process to mitigate the adverse effects of the removal of the historic San Souci District. Because of the loss, FEMA was going to compensate the City of Waterloo with the opportunity for grants. The grants could be used for nearly project historic in nature. Potential options for this included moving historic structures, creating a record of the effected historic district (written, or video), creating surveys of historic areas in other areas of the community, museum exhibits and any other options that could be generated. The grants would require matching funds, but options the other City leaders at the meeting seemed optimistic these funds could be raised.

Ottsen noted that he believed that the downtown districts should be the focus area, as that is what is labeled a priority in the Historic Preservation Plan. Olsson noted that another idea might be to use the funds for a walking tour of the Highland Neighborhood. She added that she would like to see some sort of plaque commemorating the San Souci Neighborhood to be placed on the island as well. Poll noted that members of the San Souci neighborhood had also recommended that idea as well as generating a written history of the island and possibly a film documentary.

Quirk inquired that when future MOA meetings took place if it was possible to invite the entire Historic Preservation Commission. Poll stated he would look in to that, and added that the next meeting date was not yet set.

3. Historic Preservation Guidelines Revision

A work secession for reviewing the new guidelines was arranged for 12:00 pm July 29, at the library.

Poll reminded the Commission to submit the sections of the guidelines that they were responsible for to him for formatting purposes.

4. 2009 Annual Awards Ceremony nominations

Quirk noted that Potter was out of town but would return in time for the awards ceremony. Poll inquired if the invitations went out, and how many of the recipients had responded. Quirk was uncertain, and added that she would call Potter to confirm arrangements regarding the awards ceremony. Olsen and Newton stated that they would not be able to make the ceremony.

Quirk asked that the author in the Waterloo Courier be nominated for an award for all the stories recently done on historic buildings around Waterloo. Poll said he would look into getting the contact information. Newton stated that she would e-mail Poll the name of the author of the articles.

Hearing no further discussion Newton motioned to adjourn the meeting, Berry seconded. Meeting was adjourned the meeting at 5:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Poll,
Associate Planner
Staff to the Commission