

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – September 19, 2017– 4:30 P.M.
First Floor Conference Room, 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 in attendance were: Ottesen, Stevens, Price, Jenson (in at 4:30pm), Orlando and Miller.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Jaacks.

Others Present: Pat Morrissey – City Council Representative, Ron Spears, Joyce Oaks, Laura Sauls, Elaine Eggers – Highland Neighborhood Board, Ed Gallagher – Grout Museum Liaison and John Dornoff – Planning Staff

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Stevens, seconded by Miller to approve the agenda of the September 19, 2017 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Miller seconded by Price to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2017 regular meeting with as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings

No Reports

Reports

1. Main Street

Tour D’Loo will be in October and restaurant week is going on now with about 6 restaurants participating.

2. Silos and Smokestacks.

No Report

3. Grout Museum

Tour of Homes was from August 26th from 1 to 5pm and was well received from reports.

The Grout board’s next meeting will be September 20th.

4. Rath Administration Update

City pursuing the building under Iowa Code 657A.

5. Walnut Survey

Dornoff reported that Louis Berger is doing initial work at the present time and the next step will be to have a public meeting that will include the commission and the neighborhood.

Discussion Items/Possible Actin Items

1. Highland Neighborhood

Dornoff went over a list of Highland Neighborhood Addresses and how they were rated on the surveys that were done back in the 1980's and 1990's.

It was asked if it was possible to try to get funding to do another survey of the Highland District since it has been many years since the last one was done. Doing any survey would depend on funding for the commission.

Morrissey was asked how a survey could be put on the budget, to which he said pester the city council.

It was also asked if the area was a TIF district but it is not. To get it into a TIF district would require a vote of the city council however; the neighborhood does qualify for CURA. Dornoff will send information about the CURA to the association. Some asked why they cannot get more help keeping the historic district up when JSA and others can get buildings for a dollar.

Dornoff discussed some of the benefits of being in a historic district and if the district was properly promoted it should be seeing some of those benefits. This is one of the reasons why it would be important to get historic plaques up and other ways to promote the district. The neighborhood has attempted to talk to the Board of Realtors but they do not get a return phone call.

There was also discussion about the costs of doing improvements and the often long waits for contractors to do work in the area. It would be helpful to have a listing of contractors on the neighborhood's website that specialize in historic preservation.

Also the Neighborhood Association discussed meeting new residents and helping them with their new homes.

Highland Neighborhood Association member Sauls mentioned that she would not have bought her home in Highland had it not been owned by her husband before they met. The drive down Independence is filled with housing in poor shape. What can be done to help the area improve (note: the Cote's who were honored by the commission this year have their home in the area so it can be used as an example of what can be done).

2. Design Guidelines

Dornoff noted that the design guidelines that the commission worked hard to put together and approve were never sent to the city council for approval. Dornoff also noted that new Secretary of the Interior design guidelines came out this year so the commission will look over the new guidelines to see that changes have taken place before sending the design guidelines to council.

3. Library Presentation October 17th, 2017

The commission will be presenting at the library on October 17th and the title of the presentation will be "Difficulties and Opportunities for Historic and Cultural preservation in Waterloo."

Here is the schedule of speaker from the commission:

Jenson: Introduction/Ordinance
Ottesen: Perspective from a longtime advocate
Price: Intent
Jaacks: Financing Historic Preservation
Stevens: Comparative Analysis of Historical and Cultural History
Dornoff: Walnut Survey
Orlando: Action Plan and next steps

4. Civil Rights Grant

Dornoff gave an update on the Civil Rights Grant application. The deadline for the application has been moved to October 8th, so Dornoff will be sending it to city council for approval on October 2nd.

5. CIP 2019-2023

Dornoff stated that the CIP process should begin next month so a list of potential projects will be brought to the commission so that it can be included in this year's request. Among the suggest projects so far is a revolving loan fund, signage and gateways for highland, and refurbishment of the Dunsmore House.

6. Most Endangered Buildings 2017

Ottesen noted that after the list for 2017 was published he was interview by multiple media outlets and by the Mayor Hart for Heart for the City. Also, Ottesen and Dornoff were contacted by a person that has family ties to the former church that occupied what is now Mt. Moriah church and she is looking at possibilities to save the church.

7. Most Endangered Buildings List 2018

Need nominations of buildings for the 2018 list so that it can be ready for the next awards banquet.

8. City Owned Properties/Demo List

Castle Apartments will be coming down soon although the fire that occurred in the building is making it difficult to do asbestos abatement. The church at Wellington and 2nd will also be coming down soon along with a commercial building purchased for Sportsplex Parking.

9. Action Plan

The item on sending a letter of support for the Walnut Coalition support should be green.

10. School Art Project

Orlando will start working on the school project; other members of the commission will work on donations,

11. Funding

Talked elsewhere about it.

12. Website

Dornoff noted that the commission now has web presence but it is very primitive at this point, will be a

work in progress.

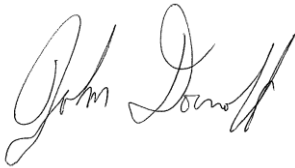
13. Other Discussion

Discussion about Oral Presentations and should it be at the end of the meeting or possibly having a time limit although Dornoff noted the most commissions have the time in the beginning of the meeting and the is what the mayor prefers.

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 6:15p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Dornoff". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

John Dornoff
Planner I